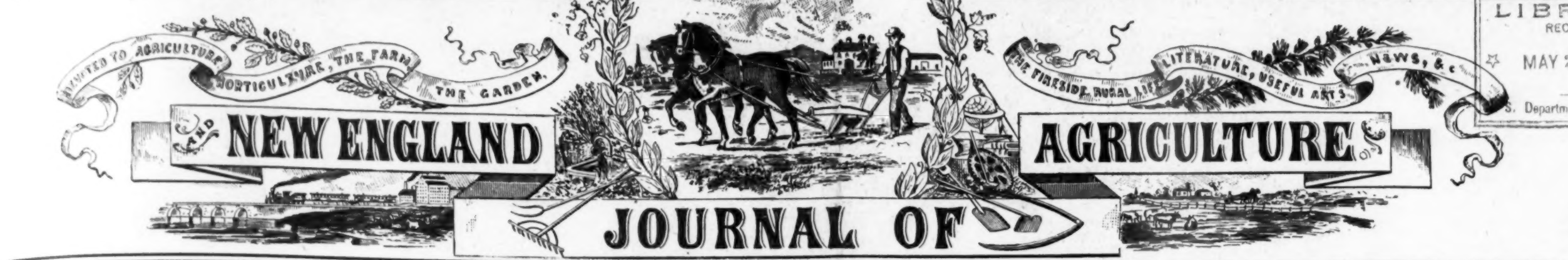


# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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the results of their experience, is solicited.

Letters should be signed with the writer's real

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The PLOUGHMAN offers great advantages to ad-

vertisers. Its circulation is large and among the

most active and intelligent portion of the com-

munity.

AGRICULTURAL.

A Good Fruit Year.

All the present indications promise an

abundant fruit crop in all parts of this

country, with such exceptions as occur every

season through local storms, blight and

late frosts. There were after the storm a

week ago reports that great injury had been

done to fruit by freezing of the blossoms,

but we do not credit these sensational re-

ports. Even if frosts occur when trees

are in bloom there are always enough buds

protected by leaves or belated in opening

to make a good crop, often better than

if all the blossoms had set, as it requires less

thinning. If nature would always use dis-

cretion in these matters man might well

trust her to do all the thinning of fruit that

is needed. But she does not use discretion;

in some places she nips all the buds while

in others she leaves the blossoms on fruit

trees to set in profusion, and begins the

thinning process after the fruit approaches

the time for forming its seeds, and when the

strength of the tree has been partially ex-

hausted.

Such is nature's profusion that she makes

many blossoms that are never anything

more than blossoms. These are like the

little babes that bless homes that were

heretofore cheerless and joyless, but after

they depart they are sorely missed until

later blossoms come into the family to take

their place. But even blossoms have their

use. All fruit blossoms are fragrant, each

with a fragrance peculiar to itself, but

hardly suggestive of what the fruit would

be if left to perfect itself on the tree.

Dropping this little allegory for more

practical discourses we repeat what was

said before, that we are likely to have a

generally favorable season, and an abundant

fruit harvest in all parts of the country. In

very few places last winter was the cold

sufficient to destroy dormant buds, protected

as most northern localities were by the

blanket of snow which kept the trees from

being injured by deep freezing of the soil.

In short the good fruit season which nature now seems to promise is likely to be a prosperous year for business and for every body. Old farmers have a saying that a good year for fruit means a good year for everything else, for grain, corn and other food crops and also for grass and hay. When nature is lavish she scatters her favors widely, so that all may be happy, as all should be. They also say that a good fruit year is good for all kinds of business as the fruit crop always even at low prices brings better returns per acre than any other that the farmer can grow. This money from the farm makes money plentiful in cities, so that in the end it reaches all. But some unfortunate pessimist may ask:

years. The ewes shear a fleece of 84 pounds, and the increase of the flock has been from 120 to 170 per cent. annually. They do better in flocks of about 25 than in larger flocks, partly because the farmer grows to know each one more intimately, and takes better care to keep them thriving. There are too many sheep kept in pastures too large for the flock. Upon their lot of 54 acres the grass is fed very closely every day, but in favorable weather it often grows a half inch in a night, and this short grass is sweet and nutritious.

The rape plants just the plant for fall feeding of sheep, but it is not a plant for poor soil. Rutabagas should be grown for sheep feeding, as the sheep do better on them

unoccupied house during that five weeks, and it would have been better if it had hung six weeks. Five weeks is the shortest time mutton should be kept before it is eaten. If that carcass had laid on a table it would have spoiled in 48 hours, and if two had been hanging together it would spoil right away. The back yard would be the best place to keep a carcass if one could be sure of finding it in the morning. If it got mouldy it would do no harm. This would disappear when it was taken to the sun. It could not be kept so in summer because of flies, but it could be kept from November to April in fresh air and be sweet all the time. In the whole carcass there was but 14 pounds of waste, all held

a draught. In starting a flock great care should be taken to get good ewes. Every one should be a selected ewe, but not necessarily a high-priced one. There is no best breed excepting the best for the locality. The Maine Island sheep are best for the Maine Islands, and he named others for other places, but advised them to avoid the Leicester and Cotswold unless they can be got under cover at every shower. For a poor man a flock of native ewes are better than any others. Put a pure-blood ram with them, select the best lambs, feed well, and there will soon be a good flock. Do not start a flock by buying of a dealer, as there is liability of getting disease in the whole flock. Last year whole

sheep, and we have proved it so by experience.

MILLET. Hungarian grass or millet should not be put in this month, but as the ground cannot be too thoroughly worked before the seed is sown, it should be plowed this month and then it can be harrowed two or three times before the seed is sown. These crops like good strong land, and as such land is apt to develop more weeds than would come on the land which we would take for the corn fodder, the several harrowings at intervals of a week will serve a double purpose, of killing the weeds as they begin to germinate, and fitting the soil for a seed bed. We have seen good results from these crops sown as early as June 1 in Rhode Island, and as late as July 10 in Massachusetts. We think the German millet is now thought the best for hay, and it does not need seedling as heavily as the other or as Hungarian grass, three pecks of it being enough for an acre, while we used four to five pecks of Hungarian seed. Millet is not good hay as a continuous feed for horses, but does well for cows.

OATS, PEAS AND BARLEY. Oats and Canada peas make good hay for any stock, and may be put in this month, sowing the peas broadcast and plowing them down about three inches, then about a week later sowing the oats and harrowing them in. In this way both will be ready to cut at the same time, or when the oats are in the milk and the peas are green. Barley and oats are often sown together for a hay crop, but they do not need to be sown so early. That is, they will do well sown at any time from May to September, the later sowings being intended to be fed green rather than for hay. We would not sow grass seed with any of these crops, preferring to sow it alone in August if the weather is favorable. Fields where the white weed or daisy has come in, wild carrot or other foul weeds, cannot have better treatment than to have some of these crops grown on them. Fertilize about as for fodder corn, excepting sowing broadcast and harrowing in.

CORN AND POTATOES. When it is about time for the corn and potatoes to break through the ground go over the field with a light harrow, not only to loosen the soil and break the crust if it has baked at all, but to kill all the little weeds that are starting on the surface and trying to get ahead of the crop planted. When they are up about two inches high repeat the harrowing, and continue it until it is time to use the cultivator between the rows. The harrow will not only save much labor in weed killing, but either crop will look as if it had had a fertilizing within 24 hours after the harrow went over it.

GETTING TO PASTURE.

This month the cattle will be put in the pastures nearly throughout New England, and in some places they are already out. For those that are out now we do not worry unless the owners are trying to make them subside entirely upon what they find there, but those who are waiting until the pastures get a better start would do well to remember that the change should be made gradually. Choose a pleasant, warm day, and give them a good feed in the morning, then let them in the pasture for a few hours and return them to the barn again, and feed at night as much as they will eat up clean. This should be the programme for the first week at least. There is not only danger from too sudden change of diet, but from lying down on the wet and cold ground, especially when the thawing snow keeps it wet and cold. Cases of pneumonia have been produced in that way, and farget may very often result if the cow is fresh in-milk, so that her udder is chilled by contact with the wet ground.

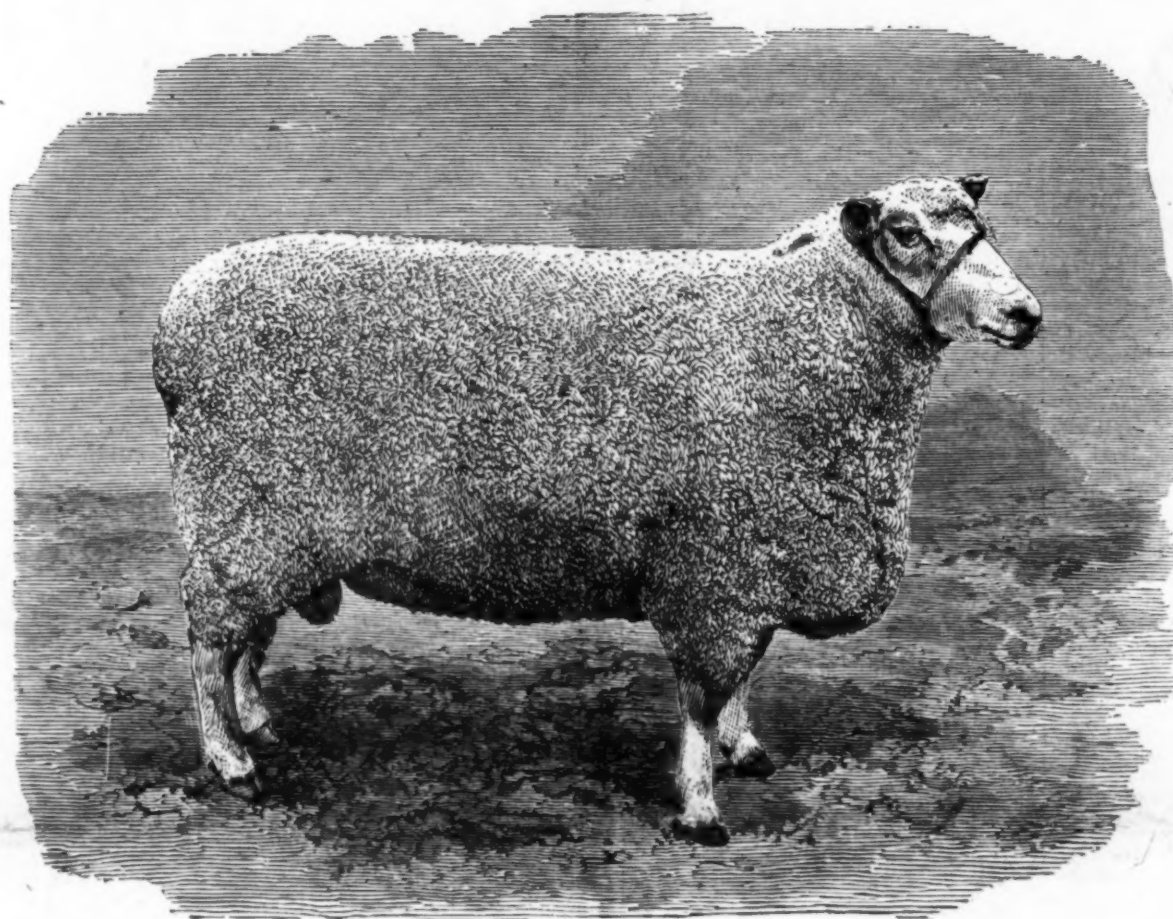
War on the Forest Worm.

In the villages throughout central New York parties of school children go about daily examining the fruit trees in gardens and orchards. They break off and make bonfires of the tender twigs at the ends of the branches. They are destroying by the only sure means known up to this time, the forest worms, which last year invaded the State in myriads, stripping the forest and fruit trees of foliage and almost ruining the apple crop in many regions.

How to preserve the trees from the ravages of these prolific and ravenous pests is a problem which has received much study, and the general conclusion is that the only sure way is to destroy them by fire as soon as they appear. None of the solutions or drenchings that ordinarily serve to protect trees from predatory insects avails against the forest worm. Nothing short of complete annihilation is effective against this pest.

Last fall the caterpillars, into which the forest worms were transformed, went to the trees, and at the very ends of the twigs they laid bands of eggs completely encircling them. The band looks for all the world like a droplet of shoe-maker's wax. These bands are full of tiny holes, each of which contains an egg, and from these eggs the bands of forest worms are now hatching by millions and starting out to devour all the leaf and fruit buds they can reach.

In many places the boards of education and village officers have offered rewards to the school children, and prizes for the greatest number of worms killed by each. It is found that each little brown band around a twig contains about 200 worms, and it is these that the boys and girls are breaking off and making into bonfires to save the trees. In the village of Harkness in the last two days the high school pupils have destroyed more than 2,000,000 forest worms. There is a contest as to who will kill the most, and more than 10,000 egg rings have been destroyed by the children among the village fruit trees.



ENGLISH WENSLEYDALE LONGWOOL RAM.

"How do you know that some untimely frost may not entirely destroy all the present promise in blooming trees?" Well, no one can prophesy without securing the prophet's reward of a curse when some carpenter finds, or thinks he finds, that the prediction has not come true. But we rely much on the saying common among old farmers that a thunderstorm in the last days of February or in March means the breakup of winter. There was such an one last February, and though it was followed by some cold weather, caused by the sudden conversion of large bodies of snow into water in northern New England, it made great floods in all the rivers, and was only checked as the air was cooled to near the zero point by thawing so much snow and ice. A week ago we in Boston had another thunderstorm, with a great outpouring of water at a temperature of 50° or higher. That also cooled the air the next day, but so much rain carried a great amount of heat into the soil and made a rapid growth of all vegetation.

Tuesday night, May 8, Boston had another thunderstorm with vivid lightning and nearly an inch of rain, all of it warm and carrying more warmth into the soil. Two thunderstorms within a few days of each other in May mean in this latitude that an danger from freezing is past, and that an excellent fruit crop is assured for this year. Nature has done and is doing her part. Now will man supplement nature and do his in caring for this crop, so that when it is matured, it shall be his blessing and not his bane? It will require a great deal of hard work and skill as well to care for this fruit crop while it is growing, to thin what needs thinning, and to spray both with insecticides and fungicides wherever these are required. A good year for fruit is always a year when weeds are hardest to kill, for God's blessing of rain, as was long ago said, "falls upon both the just and the unjust," on the weed as on the more valued crop which the farmer is trying to save. Even the weed has its uses. Many weeds do good service for man, and many which man has not learned to use furnish food or medicine for the animals which serve him or are used by him as food.

Sheep Husbandry in Maine.

At a Farmers' Institute held at Machias, Me., March 15, the principal speaker of the forenoon was Prof. G. M. Gowell of the Maine Experiment Station, who said in miles and miles of grand grazing land in Maine goes ungrazed, and acres upon acres of nutritious grass is unused. The richest pastures go to waste and yield no profit. There is no animal so well suited to the rough lands of the State as sheep. At the University farm they have a paddock of 54 acres, upon which they have kept from 20 to 38 ewes for six years, and they have not their living upon that land, excepting that in a season of summer drought they have had a feeding of bran, but during two such seasons they have not been fed six weeks in all.

They have not poisoned the land, and not a sheep has been lost by sickness in six

than upon a more concentrated and heating food. They can be carried through from December until they go to grass in the spring, on oat and pea hay, and one quart each of sliced rutabagas per day. In our cool, moist climate sheep do better than farther south, and with sheep as a feeding animal the farmer is more independent of the grain growers of other States than with any other animal.

The speaker alluded to the demand by the summer visitors of the State for winter-raised lambs dropped in December or January, and thought that with a Dorset-Shropshire cross it would be possible to get a family so fixed that they would breed so as to have lambs that would sell readily at \$3 per head.

Sheep in Maine are very free from disease. Mix salt and wood ashes and keep it in their troughs; turn fresh furrows of earth in pastures that they may fight the fly that causes grub in the head, and bore holes in a log in the pasture, putting in salt and smearing the outside with tar. In this way their noses become smeared with the tar which is offensive to the fly. Select the flocks, and throw out the weak ones—they bring disease to the flock.

Farmers cannot go on cutting grass at an expense of \$2 or \$3 per ton and selling it at \$5 to \$6, as they have been doing. It impoverishes the soil. Nor can the farms be profitably managed by buying grain and hiring help.

Professor Gowing recommended wire fences. The wire comes in rolls of 40 rods each, and at three feet high it costs about 33 cents a rod. Such a fence is easy to change from place to place, and sheep can be moved from one enclosure to another, so that while one is being grazed the other can be plowed or put into roots, or the grass can be cut for hay. He liked the Southdown, the Shropshire and their grades. The Shropshire is an enlarged Southdown. The Merino has been bred to the mutton form, and is then very good, but usually it is valued only for its fleece.

The housing and shelter for sheep costs less than for dairy cows. At the University farm they have a low shed, open in front, into which the sun shines all day long. Such nights as we are now having (in March) the sheep lie out on the snow and enjoy it. Do not shut them up in tight places with no ventilation. If you do, you will pump all the vitality out of them, and have animals liable to be ill in health.

A prominent feature of the day was a mutton stew as first served at dinner, which was cooked at the hall by Mr. L. B. Harris of Lyndonville, Vt., who was the first speaker of the afternoon. This was pronounced a decided success, and many expressed their intention to eat more mutton hereafter. It was made with five parts of water to one of rice, and half a red pepper put in while it was cooking.

He first proceeded to tell them about the mutton. It was from the Roque Island flock of Mr. H. A. Long. It was killed five weeks before, and the carcass weighed 42 pounds. It had hung in the cellar of an

on one small plate. The bones were very fine and the ribs thin and flat, a peculiarity of these island sheep. If they were in England they would be considered a distinct breed and have their own herd book. They should not be allowed to be mixed with blood from the mainland.

As a sheep grower Mr. Harris thought rape was the crop to be grown for sheep food, but it should not be sown before July 1. It is of most value as a winter feed, and better after frosts and snows come than before. The land for it should be plowed early, and furrowed often to prepare it for the seed and kill the weeds, but as the seed germinates in 48 hours after sowing and grows rapidly, it does not allow weeds to grow after it is started, even killing with grass. Rape is a rank grower and will yield 30 tons to the acre of green feed.

To improve the island sheep Mr. Harris would put 40 to 60 selected ewes on an island to raise rams from them, and select the best for breeding purposes and kill the poorer ones. While years ago the fleece was 34 pounds per head it is now as an average 74 pounds, which has been accomplished by selection and breeding. Lambs dropped in May can be made to weigh 9 pounds in November.

The island sheep are very wild, but very vigorous. They now sell at \$1.25 each, but by feeding on rape they would as well be made \$1 to sell at \$4.25 each. Lambs will wean themselves on rape and go into the winter strong. Once they could only be sold about July 4, but now they sell as well in one month as another and will gain more in October and November than in any other months in the year. All sheep that are to be sold should be sold before winter. The islands off the coast of Maine are well adapted to sheep growing, and the industry should be pushed for all it is worth, as the mutton is of better quality than can be produced anywhere else in the United States. The flavor is rich and gamey, and it should be advertised and sent to the markets labelled "Island sheep."

He never saw such healthy, strong sheep as on Roque Island. Among hundreds that he saw, he saw but one dead one. They were wonderfully vigorous. While storms for the past two or three weeks had been the worst ever known, the sheep never noticed them. The climate there he thought better for raising rape than that of Vermont. The rape can be fed in six or eight weeks after sowing the seed, and springs up again after it is fed off. It will cover the ground all over and take all the room given it. He mentioned that there were two rape plants shown at the Vermont State Fair last year, which weighed 40 pounds each, grown as far apart as cabbages are. The amount of seed to be used is from one to three pounds per acre, according to whether it is sown in drills or broadcast.

The farmer should not go into sheep raising unless he likes sheep. He should know every sheep, and their likes and dislikes. They like outdoor life, and should not be kept in close barns or sheds, or on muddy ground. They need a dry place, and will stand the cold. They like fresh air, but not

flocks in Vermont were killed because of disease got into them by carelessness. One or two breechy sheep may teach the whole flock bad habits in a single night.

Mr. Harris is now wintering a flock of 200 registered Shropshires. He has not fed under cover or in racks or troughs for the past 15 years and will never do so again. Feed always on the ground or on the snow in a clean place whatever the weather. Oat is one of the best sheep feeds and should be used where a good catch can be got. Cornstalks are excellent, no matter how coarse. Oat straw is a good sheep feed, and with clover hay and Swedes makes a perfect sheep ration. The purple top rutabaga is the best root for sheep, but mangels are all right if the land is suitable to grow them.

Mr. Moses L. Wilder said he had found fish pomace, the waste of oil and sardine factories, better than corn for sheep. Mr. H. A. Long of Roque Island said his sheep fed in winter upon seaweed and also found much substance upon moss and green twigs. Capt. Veranus C. Plummer said he had 40 sheep on an island of six or eight acres, with not a tree on it and but little grass. They lived upon dunes. When they had become accustomed after the first winter they succeed well and are all right.

Farm Hints for May.

FODDER CROPS.

Two years ago there was a surplus of hay in many sections, that is, more than the farmers had stock to use up, and, as many desired to sell, prices went low. Many farmers wisely did not sell, but either kept the surplus on hand or increased their stock, either by purchase or by raising young animals. Last year the long period of dry weather caused the hay crop to be light, and only those who had old hay on hand, or those who tried to grow a supply of other fodder, found their hay sufficient for their stock.

This year, even if the season shall be favorable, the hay crop is likely to be light by reason of the damage done by the drought or newly seeded land, and even on some old fields last year. With a short supply there is likely to be an increased demand from South Africa, and even if this is supplied by Canada, we shall probably feel the reduction of our supply from there, and we look for higher prices or at least as high prices as we have now, to prevail next winter.

Will it not be well to prepare for this by growing crops to be used as a substitute for hay? Take some field of warm land that does not yield much grass, plow it, and sow corn in drills, at about the same time as corn would be planted for field corn. It needs but little labor, as such land should not be weedy; it costs but little for seed, and if manure is scarce 300 or 400 pounds of some good fertilizer to the acre put in the drill will grow a good crop of fodder corn. We believe in the silo, and wish every one who has a half dozen cows could have one, but we believe also in good, well-cured corn fodder, and think it better than the average of old meadow or timothy hay for cows or



## AGRICULTURAL.

## Cultivating Crops.

The cultivator has today largely supplanted the hoe, and the farmer can as a result accomplish nearly twice as much work in working the soil around his garden and field crops. The hoe is too slow and antiquated an implement for modern farming, and while it has its place in small gardens and for plants that cannot be reached with the cultivator, it is not an efficient implement as formerly. There is one good practice caused by the general use of the cultivator. We now sow our seeds and set out the plants in rows wide enough apart to enable the cultivator to pass easily between them. When the hoe was the chief implement for cultivating the tendency was to rob the soil too much. The rows were planted close together, and the plants never did so well. Now we are more generous with our soil, and we plant the crops farther apart, and they do much better. We raise probably less numbers to the acre, but they are better in quality, and the profits are better.

We cannot afford to be stingy with our lambs any more than we can afford to be stingy with the hoe where the cultivator will take its place. Rows for nearly all crops should be wide enough for the cultivator to pass between them, and in some instances far enough apart to permit a wagonload of straw or manure to drive between them. All this lessens labor, which today is the prime consideration on any farm. More money is spent in labor hire than for manure and seeds put together, and anything that tends to lessen the amount of labor required is a distinct advantage. Farming is gradually moving toward the same end that all manufacturing has been going for years. More and improved farm machinery is being invented to save time (and labor, and each invention helps to make the cost of raising a bushel of produce less; expensive. But there are many ways to save time and labor which farmers could adopt themselves without making further expense for new machinery. One of these is to have such roadways through the farm as will permit wagons to pass without encroaching upon the growing plants. By being able to reach every part of the field during the growing as well as the harvesting season we may save many dollars. Overcrowding not only has its disadvantages in making the plants less healthy and vigorous, but it prevents good work in the field through the summer and autumn.

New York. S. W. CHAMBERS.

## Dairy Notes.

A well-known writer on dairy topics does not believe in feeding grain to milk cows in the summer, and asks, "Suppose you have a pasture where the cow gets all she wants to eat, what can you give her that is better?" and again he says, "Pasture grass, composed of mixed natural grasses, is as perfect a balanced ration as one can comprehend."

Very few farmers have a pasture where the cow can get all she wants to eat during every month that she runs to pasture, and if there are such pastures we should think they were not sufficiently well stocked during some part of the time, and that the grass, growing faster than they could eat it, would become tough and wiry, or with too much woody tissue to make it a well-balanced ration. Nor do we think the rank growth of a rainy season is a well-balanced ration, for the reason that then the grass is too watery, and the animal must eat too much of it to obtain the necessary amount of solid matter. To feed them an excess of wood one week and of water another may average all right for the two weeks, but it is the daily average we want to keep right.

He thinks that going without grain a few weeks is a benefit to the cow, and we will not deny that, but we do not care to have her go without when she is giving milk. If she was to calve in the fall we would let her go without grain a few weeks before the calf was expected, and should not object to her going dry a few weeks if that was natural to her, but if she persisted in giving milk continuously we should milk her, and take the grain away at the risk of having her lose some flesh. Under other conditions we believe it profitable to feed grain the year through, if the cow is good enough to pay for the grain, and if not she will not pay for keeping without grain.

At Winthrop, Me., they lately established a cheese factory. As that is the home of what are known as Maine Jerseys, or those that are registered in the Maine Jersey Cattle Club Registry, the cows are nearly all of that breed, and some prophesied failure, as the Jersey was thought a butter producer and not a cheese producer. But now it is reported that the cheese from that factory took the first prize at the Maine State Fair last year, and that more cheese was made from the milk than from any other factory in the State made from an equal amount. Now it only needs proof that Jersey steers are equally good for work with the sprightly Davons, so long the favorites in New England, and that Jersey veal well fattened at six or eight weeks old, if not as fat or as heavy as some other, is a little finer flavored than any other breed, and we come very near proving that the general purpose breed so long desired. We think both these statements are true.

So eminent a writer as Mr. Henry Wallace, author of "The Skim Milk Calf," says that "Nature has furnished us her ideal ration in the milk of the range cow, or the cow that has been kept, whether on the farm, ranch or range for generations for the sole purpose of growing calves." "She provides that the chemical composition of the milk, the proportions of albumenoids or flesh formers, ash or bone formers, carbohydrates or fuel and source of energy, shall not be greatly changed in any season or the life of one cow by any accidental or intentional change in the supply of food."

This refers to the animal in as near a state of nature as it may be found. It does not in any way prove that it may not be well for the calf to take away part of the butter fat from the milk of the cow that has been fed and bred for many generations to make her produce milk that will contain five per cent. or more of butter fat. The range cow is not expected to produce that when she is on the range, though we believe that we could take the same cow and make her milk richer by giving her better food than the wild grass, or make it poorer so that the calf would fall to make its proper growth by making grass as short and dry as it was on some of our New England pastures last summer. We believe that to be as true as that by chasing her with a dog we could so change the quality of the milk that instead of being wholesome and nutritious

it would become unwholesome and almost poisonous, or as true as that we can change its flavor by feeding turnips or onions, or that we can cause it to spoil quickly even at a low temperature by feeding sour decaying swill and rotten vegetables.

To sell milk off the farm is to sell all the fertilizing elements there are in the milk, but these are not as great as those that were in the grain and fodder that the cows ate. Of the grain no small part of those elements are left in the manure heap; not quite as much of clover hay, yet more than of the grasses. If one is selling his milk he should determine that a part of the money he receives for it, shall be returned, either in grain bought and fed out, or in fertilizing material put upon the fields. Only in this way can the soil be kept up to its condition.

But one who keeps cows and makes butter at home, using his skim milk for growing calves and hogs, and buys grain to feed out, will ever find his land improving, his crops growing larger if properly cared for, and he should grow richer by reason thereof if prices maintain their proper relation to one another. The man who sells milk may improve his farm and still make money if the milk prices are high enough, but we cannot help feeling that it is doubtful for those who have to sell at the prices established by the milk contractors who buy for our cities.

When we sold milk at the prices we now pay for it, or from five to seven cents a quart, we thought it none too much, but we made a living at it. To have sold at prices paid by contractors for the supply of Boston would have soon meant bankruptcy for us, and we should have preferred to have brought out the tin cans, the churn and other apparatus in use in those days, and made butter again. Today, with more modern appliances, we think butter making should be much easier and more profitable.

## Bees and Honey.

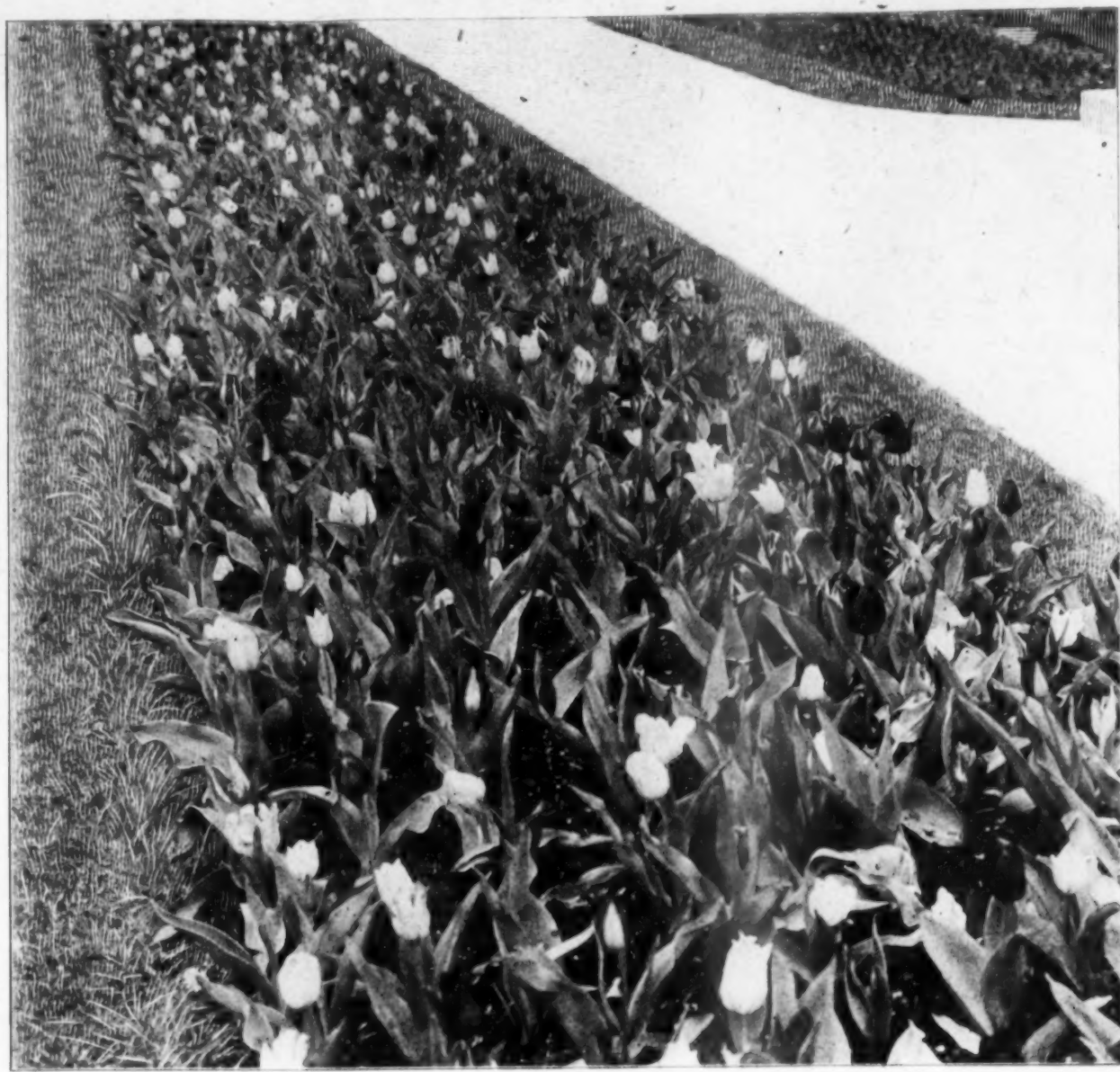
The beekeeper who produces comb honey in sections for the market should never make the mistake of using soiled and dirty sections for the bees, or if he necessarily compels him to do so when he has not new ones at hand, he should save them for home use or for feeding to the bees. The honey may be just as clean and good in such sections as any, but its lack of neatness attracts the buyers, and it must be sold at a discount which will amount to more than the cost of section and foundation. We would not use a section a second time any way, as they cost so little now there is but little saved, and a chance of considerable loss in so doing. Clean sections of well-capped honey, packed in clean cases so that they will not break down in transportation, are what the dealers want.

Even in a region where the honey yielding plants are not very abundant, it is not unusual for a strong colony to fill the 24 sections in the super in two weeks during the season when the plants are in bloom. In those places where bass wood is plenty or the white clover abounds they will often do better than that. But the colony must be a strong one and we have known a strong swarm to do this, when they found the sections filled with full sheets of foundation, while a second swarm landing 10 days later would scarcely gather enough stores to enable them to live through the winter without feeding. For this reason we would not allow a second swarm to come out if we could prevent it by cutting out the queen cells.

A correspondent of the British Bee Journal sends the following statement to which we would call the attention of those who protested against the destruction of the English sparrows a year ago.

"Last summer we were much plagued here with that agricultural pest, the sparrow, commencing operations on the bees. They began in a small way, carrying off only dead bees from the ground, but soon they began to take the live ones, flying off with them to their nests on the house roof. This mischief was brought to my notice by a friend (a gamekeeper), who, on passing the hives, had seen them robbing. I then took to the alighting-board, catching the bees as they came in and out, carrying them to their young ones. I thought he must be mistaken with regard to sparrows, but on our going to the hives and seeing the damage they had done, I could hardly think it credible. Being a lonely place they had had a 'clear go.' The place was alive with sparrows, and, being a lonely spot, they had no disturbers, and probably never before had found food so easy to get as bees. However, after feeding them for a day or two, in a direct line from the bedroom window, by the use of my gun well charged with small shot, I soon reduced their numbers. We then took all the nests we could find, and shot the sparrows whenever we could. I am a lover of birds, but after such a treat as that you may depend upon it both tomits and sparrows will receive a short shrift at my hands. They are welcome to the dead bees, and a few live ones, too, but I object to them coming in scores and taking them wholesale."

A correspondent of a Western paper complains of having been unfortunate in losing queens from many of his colonies last winter. Perhaps it may prove true, but we think that many keepers of queens until they are too old to be productive of brood, and while they may live until four or five years, there are few that after they are three years old will keep brood enough to make a good working colony. One might about as well have no colony as one that will not produce any surplus honey. Then it often happens that such colonies will be so reduced in the spring that it will be much better to divide up the weak and queenless colonies among those that are stronger, and reduce the number of colonies. Far better is it to have one strong colony than two or three weak ones, and save the empty hive and comb to use when new swarms come out. We should not keep any queen until over two years old unless we had very strong reason for thinking her much better than the average, either in the number of brood she would



BED OF TULIPS.

supply, or the amount of honey produced by the swarms she sent out.

When the bees begin to bring home honey and pollen, and are working busily, it is time to select a bright, pleasant day and remove the shaft cushions from the top of the hives. As this is done, examine the frames to see if they have brood comb, and if the queen is placing her brood compactly and as it should be. It is well to keep the combs with most brood in the center of the hive, and those having but little or no brood, and in which pollen has been stored, at the outside. If there is a good number of brood all through there is a vigorous queen, and a comb of brood may be removed to strengthen some weaker colony, and a frame of empty worker comb placed at the center of the hive for her to begin to fill. If there is but little honey, either place a frame of honey at the outside or put a dish of honey or thick syrup upon the top of the frames under the cap every night, taking it away in the morning to prevent robbing. Strengthen the weak colonies either by uniting two or giving brood from the stronger ones, and feed to keep up the brood raising until they are strong and there is a good honey flow.

It is possible that bees sometimes partake of the character of those who take care of them, as do animals. Many a time we have heard it said that so-and-so and his horse were just alike, "just so-mor-derate," while a man with more energy always drove a smarter beast. We never bought a cow that was irritable and quick tempered man if he had owned her long, and we never would, for we should have felt sure of getting an ill-tempered beast. And we know that if bees are cared for by a man who goes at them as if he were killing snakes, and begins to fight them as soon as one flies near him, he will soon have them so that they are ready to attack any one who goes near the hive. Therefore, we say that when handling bees it is well to let your moderation be known to all men.

There is no better time to move a hive of bees than about the time the apple trees are in full bloom, therefore, that is a good time for the beginner to purchase if he can find a colony to suit him then. They usually can be bought for less money in the fall or earlier in the spring, but it is better to pay more and have the more experienced beekeeper take the chances of winter killing and spring dwindling, which last is a result usually of having few young bees in the colony when winter began, and a neglect to feed so as to have them begin brood raising early in spring. Almost any one taking a good strong colony in May can not only find a profit in them, but if interested can learn much about them which will be of great help in buying them when winter comes. The beginner who buys in the fall and finds that he has no bees left in the spring is apt to be discouraged, and who can blame him, but he who buys in the spring may find that he has two good colonies instead of one, and an amount of surplus honey that will show him something of the profit in the business. Some have found their success in buying a swarm newly hived, or even in capturing a runaway swarm.

## BRILLIANTS.

The child's sob curdeth deeper in the silence Than the strong man in his wrath. —K. B. Browning.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power, And that all beauties, all that wealth e'er gave, Await alike the inevitable hour; The paths of glory lead but to the grave. —Gray.

The brave man is not he who feels no fear, But he whose noble soul its fears subdues. —K. B. Browning.

And bravely dares the danger nature shrinks from. —Joanna Baillie.

Youth, beauty, graceful action, seldom fail; But common interest always will prevail: And pity never ceases to be shown To him who makes the people's wrongs his own. —Dryden.

Though gay companions o'er the bowl Disput' the cause of ill; Though pleasure stirs the maddening soul, The heart—the heart—is lonely still. —Byron.

The greatest attribute of heaven is mercy: And 'tis the crown of justice, and the glory, Where it may kill with right, to save with pity. —J. Fletcher.

Honor alone we cannot, must not lose; Honor, that spark of the celestial fire, That above nature makes mankind aspire; Honors the rude passions of our frame With thirst of glory, and desire of fame. The richest treasure of a generous breast, That gives the stamp and standard to the rest. —Halliwell.

Will fortune never come with both hands full, But write her fair words still in foulest letters? She either gives a stomach, and no food, Such as the poor, in health; or else a feast, And takes away the stomach—such are the rich, That have abundance and enjoy it not. —Shakespeare.

## NOTES AND QUERIES.

LEGEND OF THE ARCTURUS.—"Sentimental": Many moons ago there lived an old man alone in his lodge beside a frozen stream in the forest. His looks and beard were long and white with age. He was heavily clad in furs, for snow and ice were everywhere. The winds blew wildly through the forest, and the old man went about seeking in the deep snow for pieces of wood to keep up fire in his lodge. In despair he returned to the lodge, and sitting down by the last few dying coals, he cried to Manabozho that he might not perish. And the wind blew aside the door, and there came in a beautiful maiden. Her cheeks were red, and made of wild roses; her eyes were large, and her hair touched the ground as she walked. Her hands were covered with willow buds, and her moccasins were of white lilies, and when she breathed the air of the lodge became warm. The old man said: "My daughter, I am glad to see you. My lodge is cold and cheerless, but it will shield you from the tempests. Tell me who you are. I am Manito. I blow my breath and the waters of the rivers stand still." The maiden said: "I breathe and the flowers spring up in the plains." The old man said: "When I walk about the leaves fall from the trees at my command, the animals hide in their holes in the ground and the birds fly away." The maiden said: "When I walk about the plants lift up their heads, the trees cover their nakedness with leaves, the birds come back and all who see me sing." Thus they talked, and the air became warm in the lodge. The old man's head dropped upon his breast and he slept. Then the sun came out, and a bluebird came to the top of the lodge and called: "Say-so, say-so! I am the river!" And the river said: "I am free, come and drink." And as the old man slept, the maiden passed her hands above his head, and he began to grow small. Streams of water ran out of his mouth, and soon he was a small mass upon the ground. His clothes turned to green leaves, and the maiden, leaning upon the ground, took from her bosom the most precious flowers and hid them all about under the leaves. Then she breathed upon them and said: "I give all my virtues and my sweetest breath, and all who would pick them must do so on a benedict knee." Then the maiden moved away through the woods and over the plains. All the birds sang to her, and wherever she stepped, and nowhere else, grows the arbutus.

THE GREAT SEAL OF ENGLAND.—"Curious": The seal consists of a large mass of sterling silver, measuring about six and a half inches in diameter by one and a quarter inches in depth or thickness. It is in two parts, both smooth on the outer side, but elaborately engraved within. These two surfaces are impressed upon a lump of wax attached in an ingenious way to any document to which Her Majesty as sovereign gives her royal assent. The weight of the seal is 155 ounces, and its value in metal about \$10. Each seal is engraved during the reign of the sovereign whose name it bears, and the seal is presented to a curious and accurate epitome of English history. All lord chancellors have taken the greatest care of the seals in their charge, and have contrived recesses and elaborate devices for their safe custody. One of them in the reign of Charles I. actually slept with the seal under his pillow, and by this loving precaution saved it from thieves, who one night broke into his house and carried off the mace belonging to the House of Lords and other valuable property.

DIETETIC POWERS OF THE OSTRICH.—"W. H. R.": The digestive powers of the ostrich have long ago passed into a proverb; the birds will swallow anything that they can get into their beaks. They are amazingly greedy, and will gulp down whole orange more rapidly than they can take them into their stomachs, so that half a dozen may be seen passing down their long necks at the same time, each orange producing a queer-looking protuberance. When visitors stand near the fence of one of the enclosures, the birds will peck in a most persistent manner at any bright object, such as the head of an umbrella or a walking cane, a watch chain, pocket, brooch or button. It does not surprise us to be told by the attendant that indigestion is the prevalent malady among ostriches, and usually is responsible for their death. It is said that an attempt is sometimes made to relieve their systems of an accumulation of indigestible matter by administering half a gallon of castor oil in one dose.

VICTORIAN FAMILY.—"Little America": The Queen's family, counting in addition to her Majesty, only children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren living, now numbers 74, as under: Queen.....1 Son and daughters living.....1 Grandchildren.....32 Great-grandchildren.....34 Total.....74 This is one of the largest families of four generations. The Prince of Wales's own family is a relatively small one—four children (one son and three daughters) and six grandchildren (three granddaughters and three grandsons). The line of direct succession to the throne happily continues unbroken in Queen, Prince of Wales, Duke of York and sons of the Duke of York.

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## GEMS OF THOUGHT.

Beauty is but skin deep.—Old Proverb.

Assume a virtue, if you have it not.—Shakespeare.

An artful woman makes a modern saint.—Prior.

Seagulls should be no choosers.—J. Hay.

Good manners never can intrude.—K. Moore.

Art is a perfection of nature.—Sir T. Browne.

Lies are but the vehicles of prayer.—Dryden.

Life is too short for mean anxieties.—O. Kingsley.

Angels from friendship gather half their joys.—Young.

Fashion wears out more apparel than the man.—Shakespeare.

Ambition makes more trusty slaves than need.—Ben Jonson.

General notions are generally wrong.—Lady M. Montagu.

An injury is much sooner forgotten than a debt.—Lord Chesterfield.

Animals are such agreeable friends—they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms.—George Eliot.

Wake not a sleeping wolf.—Shakespeare.

Sleep is sweet to the laboring man.—Bunyan.

When the sun shineth, make hay.—J. Heywood.

Life's a long tragedy; this gives the stage.—Walt.

Bin let loose speaks punishment at hand.—Cowper.

Where boasting ends, there dignity begins.—Young.

How all along life we find it that they who are the kindest and tenderest and truest, who understand your trouble as by instinct, who minister that understanding, giving it, and they have acquired that understanding, refreshing strength, they learn to get out of themselves, and feel and live for others.—J. F. W. Ware.

## CURIOUS FACTS.

—Russian soldiers are supplied with bandkerchiefs at the expense of the government.

—Women employed on Japanese tea farms work twelve hours and are paid fifteen cents a day.

—Kerry clay there hangs over London a vast smoke cloud that is estimated to weigh about three hundred tons.

—The Baron of Beel, two strikers joined together by the end of the backbone, is always served on the royal table at Windsor Castle, Christmas day.

—A newspaper printed on the excursion steamer Ojib published one number in eighty degrees north latitude. It claims to be the paper published farthest north of any on record.

—Spiders are a serious plague in Japan. They spin their webs on the telegraph wires, and are so numerous as to cause a serious loss of insulation. Sweeping the wires does little good, as the spiders begin all over again.

—The only place where "black diamonds" are found is in the Brazilian province of Bahia. They are usually found in river beds and brought up by divers. Others are obtained by tunnelling mountains. The largest specimen ever found was worth \$30,000.

—Water containing salts has a lower point of congelation. Sea water is more or less salt in localities, but in general it freezes at 27° F. (in round numbers 28°). If water be saturated with sea salt, the freezing point sinks to 4° below zero. In freezing, the pure water floats as ice and the salt separates.

—The number of wines in a given time is found by Kutz, a Russian physician, to furnish a fairly accurate measure of the degree of eye fatigue caused by various illuminations. This method gave the following unexpected results from readings of ten minutes: With a candle, 0.8 winks per minute; city gas, 2.8; sunlight, 2.3; electric light, 1.5.

—Among the curiosities in deeds, attention is called to one in Belfast, which gives the course and distance "to a hole in the front of the shed of the blacksmith shop." This, H. P. Farrow, the Belfast civil engineer, says, should be considered an "indestructible monument," as the hole still remains, although the shed was burned many years ago. Another queer deed is of a shipyard in Hookport, and one curious is described as "in line with the bow of two vessels now building at said shipyard."

—Prof. H. A. Hazen records that on one occasion he walked down to the edge of Lake Michigan in the face of a strong wind. Although he was in perfect physical condition, within five minutes he had every symptom of a very cold. This severe influenza continued until, on walking away from the lake, he disappeared as by magic when he had gone less than five hundred feet. He then learned that hundreds of residents had been compelled to move back from the shore to escape influenza. He ascribed the effect to the abundance of ozone in the air at the edge of the lake. He has accumulated many instances of persons of nervous temperament who cannot stand the passage of high-pressure areas in the atmosphere. The cause in this case is obscure.

## A Way to Solve a Vexing Problem.

That over difficult question, "Where to go for a vacation?" again confuses us, and a most perplexing problem it is. Northern New England, without a doubt, offers a greater variety of vacation places, including lake, mountain and seashore resorts, than any other section of the country.

The hotels of this region have no equal. The methods for amusement and recreation include everything that is desired, and the ease with which the tourist can reach his abiding place is a feature which alone speaks for itself.

A personal of "New England Summer Resort and Tour Book" just issued by the Boston & Maine Railroad will help amazingly in selecting your summer outing place. The book has a list of a thousand summer hotels and boarding houses, together with maps, routes, rates and stage connections, and it is to be had, free of charge, upon application to the General Passenger Department of the Boston & Maine Railroad, Boston. Be sure you get it before you take vacation.

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## Hood's Sarsaparilla

Cures those eruptions, boils and pimples which are so likely to appear in the Spring; cures scrofulous diseases in their most tenacious forms; cures salt rheum or eczema with its dreadful itching and burning; cures all stomach troubles due to generally weak condition and impure blood; cures debility, sick headache and "that tired feeling," which just as surely indicate that the blood is lacking in vitality and the elements of health. Hood's Sarsaparilla

Never Disappoints.



## POULTRY.

## Practical Poultry Points.

An exchange says that "on an average one egg to a dozen hens is sufficient." Possibly this is true, but it conveys about as much information to a beginner in the poultry business as it would to tell a shoe-maker that a man of the average size wears a number nine boot and thereby lead him to manufacture that size for every one. There is a vast difference in the different breeds and often a difference in individuals as much as in breeds, and this last difference depends upon feeding and care. While we depend upon one male sufficient for 10 to 15 Brahmas or others of the Asiatic breeds, one to 15 or 20 Plymouth Rocks, one to 20 to 25 Wyandottes, we think one Leghorn, Black Spanish or Minorca male would fertilize the eggs of 40 to 50 hens quite as well as he would if he had a less number. If he or the hens were kept too fat it might be necessary to reduce the number in either breed, and in the Asiatic or Rocks there might not be any or but few eggs fertile in such a case or where the breeds had suffered from rump or any other disorder. While some would place the average number of hens to a cock lower than we do, we have had a good share of eggs fertile with the number we name in the different types, and others have succeeded with more hens to a male than we name, as in an instance we related some time ago of a party who had one male running with a little more than 100 hens on a farm where there was no other poultry within more than a mile, yet his hens hatched over or about 90 per cent. of all the eggs put under them. This doctrine of averages has been carried too far. If the average hen in the United States is worth \$37.40 per head, and the average cock \$29.00, this does not furnish any basis for the assessors of the city of Boston or of our surrounding towns to insist on making up their lists.

We expect to see the time when poultry keepers who are in the business for profit will not think it desirable to get along without good incubators, any more than a market gardener would think of trying to get along without good hotbeds. It is in what is stated early and put on the market at a time when buyers are willing to pay liberal prices that both find their best profit. There may be some profit in the later crops or they may bring in only a fair compensation for labor, but the one who is successful in getting a good crop of vegetables or fruit, chickens or eggs at the season of scarcity will find his labor well rewarded. The man who keeps but a dozen or two of hens, or who has a quarter of an acre of garden, may get along without these helps, but he will not make his fortune in the business. His profit will be larger in having employment for his leisure hours, and in producing then that which otherwise would require a cash outlay for his family.

It is certain that there is a considerable amount of sulphur in the egg, as any one would imagine who ever noticed the similarity of the odor from a sulphur spring and that from a fresh egg. But we never have been in the habit of feeding sulphur to fowl, and we do not know how much of sulphur they might have found in the foods we used or that which they picked up for themselves. Nor do we know if our eggs had as much of sulphur in them as others, and if they had not we do not know whether they would keep longer before decaying or if they would be more apt to be infertile. Having thus confessed our ignorance, if any one who has investigated any of these points can furnish us with information we should be glad to receive it for the benefit of our readers. We have dusted sulphur in the nests to drive away the insect pests, but never saw a hen try to pick up any of it, and think they have no craving for it, as animals have for salt, so we do not think it necessary to give it in the feed, but as some advise its occasional use, we would say it can be used only in small quantities and only when hens are laying, and if its effects on them are similar to those it has on animals, care should be taken to guard against taking cold after it has been given.

Do not be afraid that the great packing houses will take all the profit out of the chicken-raising business. They are likely to handle a large number of chickens and other poultry grown in the Western States, and they are going so far toward getting better stock from these states to buy male birds or eggs to improve the breeds, and are furnishing them to the farmers on easy terms, or so it has been reported. This will undoubtedly stimulate the business there, and Eastern farmers must try to improve their poultry if they would keep up with them. We noticed last winter that better poultry in better condition and more neatly packed was sent from the West than was sent a few years ago, and that in favorable weather the price of Western poultry was very nearly the same as that of Eastern fresh killed. This was a decided improvement of conditions to dealers and the consumers, but was no damage to the Eastern growers that we could learn.

The better the quality of the receipts the larger the demand in our markets, but a demand from English markets is what those large firms are looking for, and the many large shipments which they sent abroad are but a beginning of the trade they hope for. They are more likely by foreign shipments to create a scarcity in our markets than to oversupply it by stimulating larger production in the West.

And do not stop hatching chickens now if you have room for them. Hatch them every month in the year if you please. If they will not sell for 50 cents each as broilers of one or two pounds weight, keep them until they are worth 50 cents for roasting. Push them right along and keep them fat, and some one will want them. Broilers and roasters are in demand at Thanksgiving time, and from that later on. And they are not bad to have for home use at any season of the year, nor does it cost more to eat them than to eat salt pork now.

A writer in the Poultry Keeper describes a variety of turkey which is new to us, which he calls the Bourbon red, from having been domesticated mostly in Bourbon County, Ky. They are descendants of a wild turkey formerly common in Kentucky, Southern Iowa and Missouri and northern Arkansas. The prevailing color, of course, is red, with white wings and tail, with two narrow black stripes on the body feathers. He claims that they are a pure breed, resembling the bronze turkey in size, shape and weight, but more tardy, better layers, and less liable to wander from home. They are also heavier breasted than the bronze turkey. He says turkeys hatched in 1898 weighed 34 pounds for gobblers and 18 pounds for hens, while those hatched in 1899 weighed 25 pounds for gobblers and 14 pounds for hens. These are good weights seldom equalled by the bronze turkey.

## Poultry and Game.

There is only a moderate trade in the poultry markets, and offerings are largely of fresh Western, although there is a moderate supply of Western broods. The supply of fresh killed is very light, and prices keep well up on choice lots. There are some roasting chickens that bring 15 to 18 cents a pound, but most of them go at 10 to 13 cents, with broilers at 18 to 20 cents and capons at 12 to 13 cents. Green ducks are 10 to 12 cents and geese 11 to 12 cents. Fowls bring 12 cents for choice, with common to good at 10 to 11 cents. Pigeons are \$1 to \$1.25 a dozen, and squabs from \$1.75 to \$2.50, according to size. Western brood stock is steady but low. Turkeys are 11 to 12 cents for choice hens and 9 to 10 cents for toms. Fowls 10 cents for choice, 9 to 9 1/2 cents for fair to good and 7 to 7 1/2 cents for old roosters. Ducks inferior in quality at 5 to 8 cents. Western frozen in small demand, 12 to 13 cents for choice chickens and 10 to 11 cents for fair to good. Fowls good to choice at 9 1/2 to 10 cents. Turkeys 12 cents for choice small, and others at 11 to 12 cents. Ducks at 10 to 12 cents and geese at 10 cents. Live poultry dull at 11 cents for fowl and 9 1/2 to 10 cents for old roosters.

## HORTICULTURAL.

## Orchard and Garden.

The tests for the protection of orange trees, recently spoken of by our Florida correspondent, are made of six-ounce drill and five and one-third ounce sheeting. This is treated in six different baths to render it proof against mildew, fire, and the eating by insects. The cloth is then fitted to long ribs like an umbrella. A post with an arm reaching to the centre of the tree top is planted by the side of the tree, with the tent suspended in a roll from the point of this arm, so that it may be easily unrolled to enclose the whole tree, but in warm weather it is kept rolled close to the top of the post, and let down upon receipt of cold wave or frost signals from Washington. If more protection is needed it can be furnished by kerosene lamps inside the tent. The tents cost \$7.50 each, and will last four years with care, so that with oil it may cost about \$2 a year to protect a tree which may yield \$10 to \$15 worth of fruit. The factory at Titusville, Fla., is running day and night with a large force of men, making these tents.

A correspondent of the Farmers' Advocate gives cost of spraying last year five acres of apple orchard, 250 trees that have been 20 years planted and are well grown. He sprayed them three times, using each time 11 barrels of 40 gallons each, Bordeaux mixture and Paris green. In the 33 barrels he used 132 pounds of copper sulphate at seven cents a pound, \$9.24; 20 bushels of lime, 40 cents; 24 pounds Paris green at 25 cents a pound, \$6.00; a cost for material of \$11.71, nearly 42 cents per tree. It took three days labor of man and boy at each spraying, which is not as quick work as many claim to do, but we think would be

## How Will She End?

Just budding into womanhood, so fresh, so fair and fine that we turn to watch her as she passes, she trips along the street a picture of health and beauty. Among the passing crowd of worn and wrinkled women, she looks a being from another world. Will she ever be like them? Could they once have been as fair as she? No beauty can last under the strain and drain of female weakness, from which the majority of women suffer in a greater or less degree. They might preserve their fairness of face and form if they would cure the disastrous diseases which affect the womanly organs. Women are cured of such diseases by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It stops the enfeebling drains, heals inflammation, bearing-down pains, strengthens the nervous system, and restores the general health. It contains no opium, cocaine or other narcotic.



"I had been a great sufferer from female weakness," writes Mrs. M. B. Wallace, of Munster, Cook Co., Texas. "I tried four doctors and none did me any good. I suffered six years, but at last I found relief. I followed your advice and took eight bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and four of his 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I now feel like a new woman. I have gained eighteen pounds."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure biliousness.

likely to result in thorough work. He says the outlay was small compared to the percentage of clean fruit obtained. He advises the use of a brass pump, or one in which all parts that come in contact with the liquid are of brass, as the liquid corrodes iron so that it will be worthless after one or two years use.

Those Canadians who want all the trade they can get from England are now planning to send peaches in boxes of four or five peaches in a box, or in larger boxes parted like our egg cases, and they expect to get about 50 cents each for handsome peaches in London. At least, they sold readily at that price last year, and the demand exceeded the supply. Peaches are not successfully grown in England or on the Continent, excepting under glass, or in sheltered localities, where they are trained to the wall. The United States should be able to supply this demand as well as Canada.

We notice that many of the professional horticulturists and nurserymen, when they have opportunity at a public meeting, continue to urge the importance of destroying the San Jose scale by fumigation with hydrocyanic acid, or cutting down and burning all infested trees, and entirely ignore the statement of Prof. John H. Smith that he has found painting or spraying the tree in winter with crude petroleum has killed the scale even on badly infested trees, without injury to the tree, whether it was apple, pear, peach, plum or cherry. Why is this? Have they not confidence in Prof. Smith's statement, or do the professionals desire the job of fumigating, and the nurserymen hope to sell more trees in place of those that may be destroyed? We have our opinion, but will not express it until we learn more about the results of the petroleum test in other hands, when, being wiser, we shall either be sure we are right, or learn that we are wrong. In the meantime we wish to hear from those who have had the scale on their trees and tried petroleum the past winter.

While one of our agricultural exchanges advises a correspondent to grow rhubarb from the seed, we do not. Seedlings are seldom as good as the divided roots. They require from three to five years before they have stalks fit to pull, and then a large share of them will only produce stalks as large as a knife handle, while we can get roots that in good soil will make stalks that will weigh from one to two pounds each. We never had trouble in getting divided roots to live. A few years one of our neighbors plowed up a field of rhubarb in the fall, and the roots lay on the top of the ground until nearly the last of May. We think it was Memorial Day that we took some of those roots to set on the place where we lived, and every one grew well and gave us plenty of stalks the next year. Yet we took but little pains in setting them. Did not manure it at all until the next winter. When we moved last fall took some of those roots with us, and it was no easy task to dig them out. They do not want any heating manure applied to them when set, and it might be better to have them at first until rooted.

The manning of fruit trees in Holstein, Germany, is done as follows: Every other winter a few holes are dug in the ground about four or five feet from the trunk of the tree and about one foot deep, or closer and somewhat shallower in the case of small trees, and filled with liquid manure about four times during the winter months. The trees produce excellent fruit in abundance without any cultivation.

It seldom proves profitable to set a young tree in an old orchard where a tree has died. The soil is apt to have been exhausted of some of the elements needed for tree growth. This might be supplied if one knew just what it was, but the young tree has to contend with the same causes that killed the old one. And it always seems that a young tree in an old orchard, or a young orchard set by the side of an old one, proves a special attraction for all the insects and fungous diseases that are in the old orchard. These may be fought against by use of spraying apparatus, and keeping the land well fertilized, but yet we think we would try to set our young trees in a new location. A vacant space in an apple orchard might be filled by two dwarf pears, plums or peaches, as they would not come just where the other tree had stood, and being of another species would not have the same diseases and same insects as troubled the old tree.

## Vegetables in Boston Markets.

The vegetable trade is fairly good for the season. Some products are becoming a little more plenty and prices decline, while others hold firm as yet. Old beets are 75 cents a bushel and carrots the same. New beets \$1.50 to \$1.75 a dozen bunches. Parsnips are \$1.25 to \$1.50 a bushel, flat turnips 35 to 40 cents a box, and some new varieties have been brought in that sold for \$1.50 a dozen. Yellow turnips, St. Andrews, \$1.25 to \$1.50 a barrel. Sound native onions \$3.50 a barrel, Havana \$1 to \$1.50 a crate, and

Egyptian plenty at \$2.25 to \$2.50 a bag, Levk 75 cents to \$1 a dozen and chives the same, with radishes 25 to 30 cents. Florida cucumbers \$2 to \$2.50 a crate, and hot-house \$5 to \$6 a hundred. Tomatoes, Southern, at \$3.50 to \$4.50 a crate for fancy, and \$2 to \$3.25 for fair to good. Brothhouse at \$3 to 20 cents a pound. Florida egg plants \$3 to \$4 a box. Salsify \$1.25 a dozen, asparagus \$1.25 to \$1.50 a bushel. Rhubarb, forced, at 5 to 6 cents a pound. Chicago at \$1 a 50-pound box. Arparazus, Southern, per box, fair to good at \$2 to \$3, and fancy at \$3.50 a box, double bunches \$3 to \$5, native \$2 a dozen.

Cabbages, old, \$4 a barrel, new the same, or \$2 to \$3 a crate. Hot-house cauliflowers \$2 to \$4 a dozen. Lettuce, Southern, at \$2 to \$3 a long box. Spinach, Providence, \$1 a barrel and native 50 cents a box. Baltimore kale 50 to 65 cents a barrel. Dandelions 50 cents a box and beet greens 90 cents to \$1. Parsley \$2 to \$2.50 a box. String beans are plenty and lower, choice wax are \$2 to \$2.25 and green at \$2, but there are many that go hard at \$1.25 to \$1.75. Very few green peas yet, but a few sell at \$1.50 to \$1.75 a basket. Mushrooms are 75 cents a pound. Marrow and Turban squash at \$2.25 to \$2.50 a hundred pounds, and Hubbard at \$3, with a few small new squash, Southern, at 3 to 4 cents each.

Potatoes are in liberal supply, but there is a fair demand, and probably bottom prices are reached on old ones. Arrostook Rose bring 40 cents, Hebrons 43 to 45 cents, Dakota Red 38 to 40 cents. Green Mountains 45 to 48 cents. Houlton Green Mountains 48 to 50 cents, with some from northern New York and Vermont at 43 to 45 cents. Maine and New Hampshire Hebrons 40 cents, and York State Runtals 40 to 43 cents. There is a fair supply of sweet potatoes from North Carolina at \$3 to \$3.50 a barrel crate.

The prohibition of the importation of cattle from South America has caused considerable loss among shippers and butchers at Glasgow. The prices of cattle and sheep have advanced to the highest quotations since 1893. The frozen meat trade is expected to reap benefit, and it is anticipated that an attempt will be made to defeat the board of agriculture's decree by shipping Argentine cattle to Antwerp for slaughter and transshipment to England.

April exports of breadstuffs have been large, both wheat and corn surpassing last year's record. Atlantic exports of wheat in five weeks, 3,000,000 bushels, against 11,080,000 bushels, against 10,744,708 last year. Pacific exports, 3,313,250 bushels, against 2,090,737 last year, and corn exports 15,573,337, against 12,740,942 last year.

Traffic makes the exports from the Atlantic Coast last week to include 414,000 barrels of flour, 2,008,000 bushels of wheat, 3,244,000 bushels of corn, 3140 barrels of pork, 13,109,000 pounds of lard, 30,635 boxes of meat.

The world's shipments of grain last week included 9,513,000 bushels of wheat from four countries, and 8,869,000 bushels of corn from four countries. Of this the United States supplied 4,537,000 bushels of wheat and 3,411,000 bushels of corn.

Lamb are firmer, mutton steady, veal easy, springers \$2 to \$3, fat lambs 9 1/2 to 11 1/2 cents, Brightons and eastern 10 to 12 cents, yearlings, 7 1/2 to 9 cents, muttons 7 1/2 to 9 cents, fancy Brightons 9 to 10 cents, veals 5 to 9 cents, fancy Brightons 8 to 9 1/2 cents.

The exports from the port of Boston for the week ending May 5, 1900, included 53,376 pounds cheese and 180,076 pounds oleo. For the same week last year the total exports included 490,730 pounds butter, 98,080 pounds cheese and 399,508 pounds oleo.

Eggs are in fair demand, with liberal receipts of which many go into cold storage. Some Cape and nearby fancy brought 15 cents, but not many brought over 13 1/2 cents, either Eastern or Western. Fair to good Western and choice Southern were 13 to 15 cents. About 200,000 cases went into cold storage, and there are now there 75,000 cases, against 48,086 cases last year at this time.

The shipments of leather from Boston for the last week amounted in value to \$213,341; previous week, \$153,499; for the week last year, \$264,400. The total value of exports of leather from this port since Jan. 1 is \$3,468,700, against \$3,183,480. The total shipments of boots and shoes from Boston this week have been 65,185 cases, against 74,315 cases last week; for the corresponding week last year, 32,768. The total shipments thus far in 1900 have been 1,539,757 cases, against 1,360,594 cases in 1899. Beef is firm with a better trade; Fancy sides 8 1/2 cents, choice 8 1/2 cents, good 7 1/2 cents, light 6 1/2 to 7 1/2 cents, cows 5 1/2 to 7 1/2 cents, fancy hinds 1 cent, extra 10 1/2 to 10 1/2 cents, good 9 1/2 cents, light 7 1/2 to 9 cents, fancy fores 6 cents, heavy 5 1/2 cents, good 5 1/2 cents, light 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 cents, backs 5 1/2 to 7 1/2 cents, 4 to 4 1/2 cents, choice 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 cents, short ribs 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 cents, rounds 8 to 8 1/2 cents, rumps 8 1/2 to 12 1/2 cents, rumps and loins 9 1/2 to 13 cents, loins 10 1/2 to 15 cents. "Bradstreet's" reports the exports of wheat (four included) for the week as aggregated 4,537,000 bushels, against 3,683,000 bushels last week, against 166,035,432 bushels, against 199,774,663 bushels last year. The exports of corn for the week aggregated 3,411,015 bushels, against 3,690,664 bushels last week, 3,847,390 bushels in the corresponding period last year, 6,135,904 bushels in 1898, 3,127,771 bushels in 1897, 1,891,756 bushels in 1896 and 928,897 bushels in 1895. Since July 1, this season, the exports of corn aggregated 173,113,075 bushels, against 143,510,113 last year.



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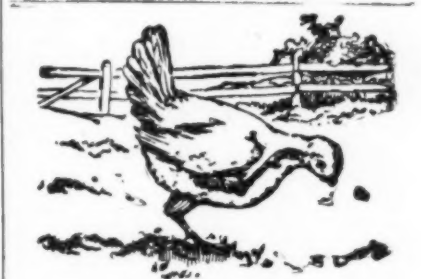
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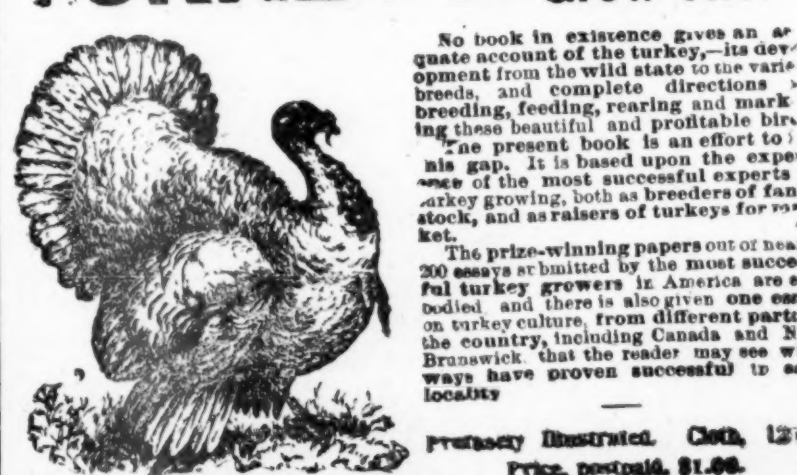
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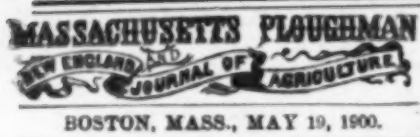
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Barnard and Cagell at the Boston Theatre, Nov. 12. Something, certainly, worth looking forward to when summer's heat dries out.

Dr. Hale declares that nearly everything in Boston today is a monument to Franklin. Pretty sweeping this, but it's not far, after all, from being true.

Mayor Champin is to be commended for his decision to enforce the curfew law. Nine o'clock is quite late enough for young America and his sister to be out of nights.

And with all that advertising the Topkap Capital only earned \$5000 during its "christian" week! Another proof that Rev. C. M. Sheldon has still much to learn of journalism.

The May Harper's has risen to its old price and has outdone itself in brilliancy. Of course the intelligent reading public is willing to pay thirty-five cents for a magazine like that.

The scholar who has just discovered that "What the Dickens" occurs in Shakespeare should make very many slippy young people forever grateful. For, of course, any Shakespearean is "goes."

Chicago now proposes to use its dining cars on through trains as chapels each Sunday. Here services will be held soon after the morning meal. This idea must have been inspired by the ecclesiastical council.

The "Absent-Minded Beggar" has now produced for the war fund \$450,000, or \$10,000 a line. And even this does not include what Mrs. Langtry's "Pay, Pay, Pay," wrung from a Boston audience on Friday afternoon!

Sargent and Abbey, Americans both, are the heroes of the Royal Academy exhibition in London. Of the former's picture the Times says that it is the "greatest painting in years." Very good, indeed, but, for the son of a Boston physician!

Richard Le Gallienne calls Rudyard Kipling "the laureate of muscular domination." As yet Rudyard has not "assured back," though he undoubtedly could if he wished to. If he were merely to dub Le Gallienne the "Golden Girl man" he wouldn't be far ahead.

The American pavilion at the Paris Exposition was yesterday formally turned over to Commissioner-General Peck by the Boston architect, Mr. Charles A. Coolidge, who designed the building and has personally supervised its construction. Of course it's a highly artistic creation.

The coming to Boston of the two new Cunarders, the Ivernia and the Saxonia, should give renewed momentum to the movement which looks to our harbor improvement. It is quite time Boston should be restored to her true position as the leading port for European passenger traffic.

Mark Twain's London speech on his political aspirations is too funny to be overlooked. "I am on my way to my own country," this inimitable humorist announced, "to run for the presidency, because there are not yet enough candidates in the field. I am in favor of everything everybody is in favor of. I am in favor of anything and everything,—of temperance and intemperance, morality and immorality, gold standard and free silver. I have no prejudices (another name for principles) in politics, religion, literature or anything else."

After two warm rains in this section vegetation hereabouts is growing, as the saying is, "by leaps and bounds." The plum and prune trees in the city where on the sunny side of buildings have been in bloom several days, and the same is true of peach trees and some of the pear and apple trees. There is much heat radiated from buildings in the suburbs of a large city, which makes all trees blossom earlier than in the country, though even there the south and west sides of a building are the warmest places. Most of our cold storms near the coast come from the east. They feel colder than they are, but do not often bring frost unless late in the season. The cold from Newfoundland past our New England coast. This usually happens later in the season than now.

May is the time for preparing corn land for planting. Most farmers are in a hurry to get their corn into the ground, and plant when a few warm days come, thinking thus to advance the crop. All this work should have been done in April, and if done on fall-plowed and with only light cultivation in spring, the seed bed is the best for corn that could be desired, except that when marking out the marker teeth are liable to go in too deeply and make the plant slow to come up. Out West, where the three wide low soil away from the surface and uncover the grain planted, farmers practise what they call "lifting" their corn, which means to plow it in with a light plow to a depth of four or five inches. Such practice will never succeed in New England, and this section grows much larger corn crops per acre than do the Western States, where putting corn in with the lister is generally practised.

Will there never be an end of the doubts which modern scientists cast over well-established historic facts. It is known that 134 years ago Gen. George Washington took command of the American armies on his election to that office to which he was nominated by John Adams, the sturdy old Revolutionary patriot. It was a grateful concession from Massachusetts to Virginia, who was recognized as such at the time. Tradition has long held that Washington took the command under or near the tree on Harvard square which now bears a tablet announcing the fact. Now comes a Harvard professor. He knows personally nothing of the matter, but after the manner of all the positivists and doubting crowd, and smears the story with an expression of his doubts, as if it were or could be an evil to believe that taking the oath occurred under the tree, when everybody, even the doubter, agrees that it was some where near that historic spot. We believe it was the spot, and that the memorial has been fully placed.

The early weaning of spring-dropped pigs is important to the swine grower, both for the advantage of the pigs and to keep the sow in good condition for breeding again. Often the sows become so pulled down by

a large litter pulling at their teats that they almost become too poor to breed well. They will breed as soon as the pigs are weaned, and will then soon, unless very poorly fed, become too fat to produce the best pigs, especially if their feed is poor and other roots. Corn will fatten the sow at the expense of her young. There are always too many roots in the litter of a sow which is mainly fed on corn. Wheat bran or middlings with some milk is a much better feed. This ration contains the bone and muscle-forming elements of nutrition. A young sow should especially have milk, as she has while breeding to supply the wants of the litter she is carrying and to make some growth herself. An old sow does not have this double strain on her system. She produces large litters with few roots, and should be kept as a breeder until she becomes too mischievous or curiously to be safely managed.

When tender vegetation freezes the first effect is to cause the leaves to shrink and huddle closer together, as if in this way to keep themselves warmer, just as people do. Nor is the comparison inapt if carried farther, for as the blood courses through the veins to keep the body warm, so does the sap in the inner bark of the tree warm all its remotest parts to some extent. So long as most trees have their roots in the ground they will not be killed outright. Though the cold weather may destroy all vegetable life above ground, the root will send up a new shoot to make a second tree where the old one has died out. All vegetation, and especially that growing very rapidly, closes its leaves as night approaches. Nature puts them to sleep in this way, and in part doubtless to protect them from the greater cold at this time. Yet on warm nights in July and August vegetation grows faster than it does in the daytime. Farmers often say that corn on well-manured land grows so fast that they can see it progress day by day. In fall, on the contrary, grass and winter grain become each day smaller until the ground seems bare almost, where in warm weather was a vigorous growth.

The street parades remind the members of the "Young Men's Whig Club" of the forties, which consisted of about a thousand members, and paraded on important political occasions at the time, as there was not any other to perform the duty, and the Democratic party did not care to be too numerous, as they held the offices of the general Government. Among other gatherings the club turned out with its band to escort Judge Sprague on his return from the Baltimore convention to report to his constituents at Faneuil Hall, where the Hon. Daniel Webster addressed them. The president of the club was Charles Francis Adams, with several vice presidents, who were absent on this occasion. The chief marshal was generally selected from the Boston Light Infantry, and William Dehon, who succeeded Hon. R. C. Winthrop, was the captain and selected his assistants from the members. After exercises at the hall the officers of the club, with their invited guests, were entertained at the Pemberton House, an old family mansion situated on Howard street, where the Howard Atherton now stands. The Hon. Josiah Quincy was there, with other distinguished gentlemen. After the cigars were lighted and the exercises about to close, a young student from Michigan, at Harvard, was introduced from the lower end of the table as Alanson Burlingame, who was afterwards a law partner with a son of Governor Briggs, and who was instrumental in building up the grand old party that we have heard a great deal of in these latter days. The turnouts of those days were confined to the labor and military organizations, as there were no other nationalities except our own mentioned.

**Imperial Federation.**  
Twelve years ago Lord Rosebery said, "Imperial federation is a cause for which I need be no more content to die." Little probably did he then think, little probably did the British colonies themselves then think, that in the comparatively near future a tremendous impetus would be given towards the realization of this stupendous plan, and that, in the dawn of a new century, England would admit that it was the question of her immediate future. Imperial federation did not originate in a casual Liberal ex-premier, although Lord Rosebery has been for a long time an earnest believer in and advocate of a plan whereby the various colonies might be represented in Westminster and have their share in legislating for the world-wide British Empire. Imperial federation has been the talk of statesmen for fully twenty-five years. It has been ridiculed and condemned by some and regarded with doubtful favor by others; but the idea has steadily grown, and is now a mighty force which must soon be reckoned with. Sir John A. Macdonald of Canada, who died in 1891, and Sir Henry Parkes of Australia, who passed away in 1896, were strongly in favor of Imperial federation, and the third British Empire builder, Mr. Cecil Rhodes, is one of the ablest advocates of this great movement. "Imperial Federation has," says Mr. John Redmond, "been brought within the range of practical politics by the war in South Africa, and by the action of the colonies."

"Call us to your councils," says Sir Wilfrid Laurier, speaking for Canada to the mother country, and heartily approving of the South African war which he regards as a just and righteous war on the part of England. From Australia and New Zealand comes the indorsement of Lord Salisbury's declaration concerning the future of the Boer republics, and it is a significant fact that, if any foreign power chose to join hands with the Boers against England, the Australian colonies alone can put into the field 370,000 men to assist in upholding British supremacy. When the South African war began, and it was thought the task of subduing the Boers would be willingly accomplished, the colonies willingly and cheerfully gave their sons for service, and when England met with unexpected and heavy reverses, more men followed, and there are now fully thirty thousand "colonials" fighting side by side with British troops in this fierce and unhappy conflict.

New Zealand, speaking through her governor and premier, has told the whole world that she will support the mother country to the last in resisting interference from any European power.

Truly, in sentiment the federation of the British empire is complete, but more than sentiment is needed. Imperial federation is the biggest problem with which the British race has ever had to grapple. It must soon be faced in something more than an academic spirit, and it is extremely

probable that, at the close of the South African war, another and a larger imperial conference will be held, at which imperial federation may take a practical form.

**Conversation.**  
It is rather singular that while books, magazines and newspapers tell us what we should read, and are full of information upon the subjects of food, drink, clothing and even breathing, they do not tell us how we should talk or what we should talk about. "Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man," is a familiar quotation from Bacon. It has been well said that the high style of conversation, where eloquence and philosophy rival each other and principles were deeply expounded and happily illustrated, ceased in England with Johnson and Burke.

To be a really good talker is indeed a rare gift. To converse well is to be in an equal degree the habit of communicating and the habit of listening, and remembering that it is not enough to exchange ideas and facts. You must also exchange sympathies and be interested in what you are talking about. And take care not to be the tyrant of conversation, much less the bore, who (as a professor once observed) "is some one who insists upon talking about himself when I want to talk about myself."

Now, while it is impossible to lay down hard and fixed rules of conversation, as so much must be left to discretion, it may be broadly asserted that there can be no real conversation between persons who are not about on the same level, and that these two old precepts should be entirely exploded, that it is very bad manners to talk about ourselves, and that we should not talk about persons. Lovers never bore each other because they always talk about themselves, and it is indispensable that, if you wish to interest, you must talk about yourself, and if you wish to be interested, you must get other people to talk about themselves.

For in conversation there is or should be "a give and take." Pray what on earth should men and women talk about if not men and women? Surely "the proper study of mankind is man" and his most delightful study is woman. The ease and perfection of talk is always between man and woman, for it does not require so much play of thought and manner as male conversation, which even among the most refined and highly educated is of coarser grain. Women are better listeners than men, and can best lead the talk into the right channel. Talk between people who talk for the first time has often an exciting feature which gradually disappears, and where strangers meet it is, as a rule, safe to talk to a man of what he has done or to a woman of what she is going to do.

It does not necessarily follow that those who have read most are the best talkers. A mere book man is often a poor conversationalist. It is true that education enlarges the sympathies, but it is drawn from observation and well-read men, and a good talker must necessarily have a good "give and take" education, and be a person of stimulating character and high animal spirits. "A great thing is a great book, but greater than all is the talk of a great man." The successful talker is one who talks of realities and brings them into vital relation with his hearers, knows how to give and take, avoids dull and insignificant topics, is sympathetic and responsive, with a keen power of finding out what other people are like and how they regard the world, an instinctive sense of individual human differences, and a quick perception, rather than of the eye and other subtle indications, of what will interest or not interest a particular person.

"There are men whose phrases are oracles, who condense in a sentence the secrets of life, who blurt out an aphorism that forms a character or illustrates an existence."

**Exemptions from Jury Duty.**  
In all the States there are limitations of age by which no one can be called to serve on juries. These exemptions vary. In Massachusetts the age for exemption is 65, and it varies in other States from 60 to 70 years of age. In this State the burden of jury service has been lessened by exempting one who has served on jury from any further call for three years thereafter. This gives the opportunity for jury service to a larger number, and as it is broadening to men's experience and knowledge of human nature that in itself is a good thing.

Seventy is the age fixed in most of the States for exemption from jury duty. In some States men are exempt from military duty after they are 60, as they are then presumably unfit by age for the hardships of military life. But there are many exceptions, especially among officers, who get larger pay and enjoy more of the comforts of life even in camps than common soldiers are supposed to do. The retiring age for officers in the army and navy is 63 to 64 years, and after his retirement on a pension, if the retired officer does not find something to occupy both mind and body he does not usually live long. It is not always the hardship of his past life that kills off so many retired officers between 63 and 70, though this is often the fact with those who were badly wounded and whose systems were infected with the malaria common in the Southern States where most of the battles of our civil war were fought.

Fixing a later time of life for exemption from jury service than for military duty is the logical recognition of the fact that the mind survives, even though bodily powers decay. Unless made frantic by troubles and worry, a man's mind should be at its best to a longer age than his body retains full vigor. There are more old men among scientists and philosophers than among any other classes, excepting those who retire on pensions that last as long as life.

There are many exemptions from jury duty besides that of age, some of them based on good reasons, as the necessity and usefulness of the citizen in other services to the public, and sometimes on the supposed incompatibility of his every-day work with the experiences found in the jury room. All professional men are exempt from jury duty, the lawyer because he is expected to be an advocate before juries; the doctor because his services may be called for at any time, and the clergyman because of the supposed sacredness of his calling. These were long ago recognized as the "learned professions"; but both lawyers and doctors become more familiar with the average life of people than did most clergymen in the age when this legal exemption of them was made.

There is no good reason why clergymen should be exempt from jury duty. It would make their views of life broader and truer than they now are. Though they find in the Bible an inexhaustible fountain of knowledge of how men lived and acted several thousand years ago, yet they of all others need to compare what they learn in the Bible with the knowledge of how

men and women live and act today. Most of the churches recognize this today, as is shown in the many church efforts for the relief of suffering humanity, both here and in foreign lands. But these church efforts are made less effective by subordinating them to theories which have lost their hold on the mass of the people, but which in many church efforts are deemed more important than relieving human want, degradation and suffering. To give the old harsh theories to a world which wants help merits the rebuke of Christ to those who if their children ask for bread will give them a stone.

There is more reason for exempting firemen and policemen from jury duty. So also there is good reason for exempting those engaged in active military duty, for these are needed for the protection of society in other ways. But no such exemption from jury duty should be claimed for various civic organizations that are often joined by men who do it mainly to shirk a part of their duty to serve the public in the jury box. There is far too much desire on the part of many wealthy men to escape serving on juries, and they try by every means to keep their names off the jury lists. Such men lose by this, but the public gains, for if they could be induced to serve they would not be good jurors. Some even pay their fines for non service as jurors rather than to associate with the majority of jurors who are drawn from the voting lists to a position where all who serve must do so as equals. Such people are not good patriotic Americans. Their ideas of class distinctions belong to European and monarchical countries, not to this country, founded on democratic republicanism, where class distinctions ought never to exist.

Jury service is in this country more important than in any other, because as administered here it is the great leveler. Even in Great Britain in older times there were class juries to be tried by juries of the same class. Ecclesiastical courts insisted on their right to set aside officers of the law and try offenders by themselves, and our ecclesiastical courts today are a relic of that era. In England no one of royal blood can come before a court. The sanctity that doth hedge a king protects him from trial and punishment except by Parliament which more than 250 years ago King Charles I. to the scaffold, and 40 years later declared the throne of James II. vacant, and called King William and Queen Mary to be his successors. By English common law, no one of the nobility can be tried for crime except by the House of Lords, which in such cases sits as a court and passes judgment on the offender.

This has sometimes been a cause of scandal in England, but the common law phrase "a jury of his peers" becomes a blessing to humanity now that it is transplanted to a country where equality is proclaimed as the basis of our Constitution, and where every man has the "inalienable rights" as Abraham Lincoln once expressed it, "to make himself the equal of every other man," and while he is doing this the law must not discriminate against him, whatever may be his color, nativity or race. Political equality may not at first mean social equality, but it is a long step towards it, and the road once begun, there will be no retreat until the millennial age of humanity, for which the world has always been waiting, shall have been reached, and all the world shall dwell in loving unity.

**A Champion of the "Old Maid."**  
We salute Mrs. Sangster, the champion of the "old maid." While there have been many who, in their heart of hearts, felt sure that as an unattached person who in an emergency might be called upon to take the helm in the family by any one in need, the "old maid" was and is simply worth her weight in gold, few women who write have ever exposed the cause of this abused personage so strenuously yet so sweetly as does Mrs. Margaret Sangster in the current "Ladies' Home Journal." "I like the term 'old maid,'" she contends "clearly and kindly." "A spinster means a married woman; a girl may be a spinster, but 'old maid' is, however, well-justified." Just a woman who, though grown old, has retained her girlish ideals; just a woman who believes with all her heart that life contains poetry and romance, even though such good gifts may have fallen to her share. The "old maid" may, as Mrs. Sangster admits, have her little vanities and be devotedly thankful, no one is privileged to interfere with them. But, for all this, it is altogether probable that she will take very great pains for the sake of being kind to some tiresome old person, or helping some querulous invalid whom chance has cast friendless into her path of life.

Of all the jokes for which the vulgar comic press is responsible, that which has the "old maid" for its butt seems to us most heartless as well as most insane. It is appallingly easy to say unkind things of the old and unattached women whom we all encounter as we go through life, and even good natured folk are wont to account for this that and the other again by remarking that the eccentric woman concerned is an "old maid." Cannot we all, indeed, recall instances in which the woman whose devoted husband and loving children should make her particularly tender of those less fortunate has been among the first to raise a laugh at some "old maid's" scruple or idea? Yet it has never been proven that the only noble females are those who have entered the married state.

It is more such women as Mrs. Wilkins and Alice Brown, says Mrs. Sangster, who are needed to stamp out this tendency to regard "old maids" as proper subjects for general execration. Miss Wilkins has strongly shown us the pathetic and the tragic side of lonely New England women, and Miss Brown has convincingly drawn for us their sad, unfruitful love affairs. And now comes Mrs. Sangster to warmly defend them, and clearly tell us that of all the women in our circle of acquaintances the "old maid" is in nine cases out of ten the most widely useful and the most scintillatingly appreciated.

**Who Has the Most to Go?**  
Housewives will appreciate a Russian story told by Count Leo Tolstol. It relates that a Russian peasant and his wife, after an earnest discussion of the question which of them had the more and harder work to do, agreed to exchange tasks for a day. The woman went to the field to plow, and the man stayed at home to do the housework.

"Now, mind," said the wife, as she started out, "turn the cows and the sheep out to pasture at just the right time, and feed the little chickens, and look out that they don't wander, and have the dinner ready when I come back; mix up some pancakes and fry them, and don't forget to churn the butter. But above all don't forget to beat the millet."

getting the cattle and sheep out that it was late when he thought of the chickens, and in order that the little chickens might not wander, he tied them all together by the legs with a string, and then fastened the string to the old hen's leg.

He had noticed that while his wife was beating the millet she often knocked her pastry at the same time. So he went to work to do these things together, and as he had to shake himself a great deal to do it, he saw an excellent chance to get the butter churned at the same time by tying the cream jar to his belt.

"By the time the millet is pounded," he said, "the butter will have come."

He had hardly begun this triple task, when he heard the old hen squeaking and the chickens peeping. He started on a run to see what was the matter, but tripped on the edge of a flagstone, fell, and broke the cream jar to pieces.

In the yard he found that a prodigious hawk had seized one of the chickens and was flying off with it; and as the chickens and their mother were all tied on one string, they hung together and the hawk flew away with them all.

In his confusion the peasant left the yard gate open and the pig came in, tipped over the bread tray and spilled the batter, which the animal then immediately began to devour. While the peasant was looking on in astonishment, another pig came in and began rooting amongst the millet.

Then, while the peasant was clearing things up as well as he could, the fire went out. He had not succeeded in rekindling it when his wife entered the yard with the horse.

"Why," she said, "where are the chickens—and the hen?"

"A hawk carried them off. I had tied them together, so they wouldn't wander away, and the hawk carried off the whole lot."

"Well, is dinner ready?"

"Dinner? How could I have dinner when there isn't any fire?"

"Did you churn the butter?"

"No; I was churning it, but I fell and dropped the jar and broke it, and the dog ate up the cream."

"But what is all this batter that I see on the floor?"

"Those miserable pigs did that!"

"Well, you have had a hard time," said the wife. "As for me I've got the field all plowed, and I'm back home early."

"Oh, yes," exclaimed the husband, bitterly, "you've had only one single thing to do, while as for me I've had everything to do all at the same time,—get this thing ready, take care of that and think of everything. How in the world was I to do it?"

"Well," said she, "that's what I do every day. Now, I guess you'll admit that a woman has something to do."—Youth's Companion.

**Butter Market.**  
There may be said to have been a slight advance in the best grades of butter nearly a week ago, and since then this price seems to be kept up, although the receipts of the week exceeded a million pounds, or was more than the average weekly consumption. But much went into cold storage as fast as it was received. This buying so early for cold storage seems to indicate a belief in higher prices in June, as they have never before taken much April or May butter for storage. Some brands are held at 21 cents, but 20 cents may be called fair prices for fresh creamery, better Northern, Eastern or Western in tubs, and 20 to 21 cents for boxes and prints. Some extra tubs sold at 20 cents, firsts at 19 to 19 1/2 cents, and seconds at 17 to 18 cents. Dairy butter sold at 18 cents for extra, and 16 to 17 cents for firsts, with low grades at 15 to 16 cents. Imitations sell slowly at 16 cents for best and 15 cents for seconds. Ladies nominally 15 to 16 cents with small demand. Some call for renovated at 16 to 17 cents.

The receipts of butter for the week were 1,485 tubs and 41,183 boxes, a total weight of 1,005,310 pounds, against 913,557 pounds the previous week and 838,452 pounds the corresponding week last year. This shows a liberal increase, and if some of it were not put into cold storage there would be a surplus seeking for buyers. For Monday and Tuesday of this week a further increase is shown.

The exports of butter from Boston for the week were nothing, against 47,730 pounds for the corresponding week last year. From New York 860 tubs were exported.

The Quincy Market Cold Storage Company gives the following statement for the week: Put in 1900 tubs, taken out 385 tubs, stock 3410 tubs, against 1650 tubs same time last year. The Eastern Company reports a stock of 536 tubs, against 52 tubs same time last year, and with these added the total stock is 2966 tubs, against 1702 tubs a year ago.

**Domestic and Foreign Fruit.**

Very few apples arriving, but there are some in cold storage with a fair and steady demand for them and prices well maintained. Rye Buns are \$4.50 to \$5 a barrel, \$5 to \$4.75, Ben Davis, Western, \$4 to \$4.50. No. 1 Baldwin the same and common to good \$3 to \$3.50, Ribbory Russets \$3.75 to \$4 for fancy and \$3.50 to \$3.50 for fair to good, cooking apples and No. 2 \$3.50 to \$3.25. Strawberries are in full supply, mostly from North Carolina. Choices brought 11 to 12 cents a quart, but most lots at 10 cents or less and some at 7 to 8 cents. Some arrived from Norfolk that sold at 10 to 15 cents.

Oranges have arrived freely from California and many were off condition and sold from \$1 a box upward to the bucksters, but we quote sound fruit in hands of jobbers, Navela, 96 to 112 count, \$2.50 a box, 126 count, \$2.75, 150, 175 and 200 count at \$2.75 to \$3.50, 216 to \$3.50 and 250 to \$2.75 to \$3.50, as to quality. Seedlings were easier at \$2.50 to \$3.50 a box, as to quality more than by count. Messina oranges, \$3 to \$3.50 a box and \$1.50 to \$1.75 for half boxes. Jamaica, new crop, very sound and in good condition, \$5 to \$5.50 a barrel. Messina and Palermo lemons, 300 count, \$3 to \$3.50, and 300 count, 15 to 20 cents a box higher, which is the reverse of the usual rule. Cuban pineapples plenty at 6 to 9 cents each for small, 10 to 15 for large, and 16 to 18 cents for fancy. Bananas, No. 1, \$2 to \$2.50 a stem, and No. 2, \$1.75 to \$2. Dates and figs dull and no change in prices.

**Apple Export Trade.**

The export of apples from this country from September, 1899, up to the present time amount to 1,300,334 barrels, while for the year previous there were 1,316,182 barrels. Prices on the early shipments were good, and the business was a profitable one, but later shipments were carelessly packed, and many were lost on the way over, and others were sold for less than they cost and the freight. We give the shipments for each month in the two seasons, giving the season of 1899 and 1899 first, followed by that of 1899 and 1900.

Barrels in September, 39,916 and 152,000; October, 217,514 and 256,184; November, 315,779 and 291,136; December, 13,411 and 17,722; January, 122,798 and 120,041; February, 82,221 and 84,665; March, 70,987 and 73,317; April, 15,109 and 29,594.

These figures include stock going from Canada as well as from domestic ports. The principal shipping points in the order of their importance were New York, Boston, Halifax, Philadelphia, Montreal and Baltimore. Two-thirds of the shipments were landed at Liverpool, the remainder being divided among London, Glasgow, Bristol, Belfast and Hamburg receivers.

**The Coffee Trade.**

If the Great Britain's adulation of foods should be amended, as some have suggested it should be, by prohibiting the selling of any food product under any other name or brand than that which properly belongs to it, or its being represented as the product of any other country from that where it is grown, we do not know of any one thing in which it would work a greater reform than in the coffee trade. The people of the United States are said to consume more coffee per capita than any other people in the civilized world, not even excepting France and nearly every one calls for and supposes he pays for either Mocha or Java coffee, or a mixture of the two. That is what most of the stores advertise to sell, and the smaller the trade of the two, the less the chance of getting anything cheap. The usual prices for it, roasted and ground, in the groceries of this State may be placed at from 30 to 40 cents a pound.

Let us look at a few figures in this matter. For the seven months ending Jan. 31, 1900, the total imports of coffee into the United States were reported as 456,204,144 pounds, valued at \$26,516,761, or an average value of something less than 6 cents a pound. If this was all Mocha and Java it would seem that after all due allowances for the shrinkage in roasting and grinding, there should be a fair profit to all the dealers who handle it.

But how much comes from those countries? Brazil sends us 379,269,604 pounds valued at \$19,282,598, and other South American ports send 30,579,397 pounds, worth \$2,088,345, while Mexico comes next with 17,771,347 pounds, worth \$1,297,226. This is a total of 427,628,348 pounds, at a value of \$22,668,169, or a trifle more than 5 cents a pound. There is also from West Indies and Central America 15,915,027 pounds, valued at \$1,448,161, or an average value of a little more than 9 cents per pound. This leaves us for the imports from Asia and Oceania, Africa, East Indies, and all other countries, including that which is brought from European ports, only 19,668,769 pounds, costing \$2,700,431, or something less than 14 cents per pound. This, then, includes the higher priced coffees, or Mocha and Java coffees. It is really the most of these that are to be found in the 618,214 pounds of coffee from all other countries, and valued at the sum of \$121,511, or about 19 cents a pound.

As coffee comes free of duty these are the prices in the country whence it is shipped, to which must be added freight, port charges and profits of dealers, beside the shrinkage above mentioned in roasting and grinding, of which we can obtain no reliable statement.

But let us look at it in another light, that of the wholesale quotations of today in New York, which is where the most of it is landed. We find Rio, low ordinary, 19 to 20 cents, ordinary 19 to 19 1/2 cents, first 11 to 11 1/2 cents, good 12 to 12 1/2 cents, prime 13 to 14 cents, Santos 9 to 10 cents, Timor Java 25 to 25 cents, Padang 26 to 26 1/2 cents, Antio 31 to 32 cents, Mandehelling 34 to 35 cents, Matucabo 11 to 15 cents, Mexican 13 to 17 cents, washed Mexican, Guatemala, 16 to 20 cents, Mocha 19 to 20 cents.

That is the Java varying from 25 to 35 cents for low grade up to 34 or 35 cents for best, and Mocha at 19 to 20 cents, while it can be bought from 19 to 20 cents. Santos at 9 to 10 cents, and that from Mexico and Central America at 11 to 30 cents. It is not only safe to believe that when we call for Mocha and Java, we obtain a mixture of the strong, coarse-flavored Rio with the milder but richer flavored Santos, but possibly some admixture of chicory or dandelion root to add more body. We doubt if one person in a hundred among our readers ever tasted Java coffee, as there would be but a small profit, and possibly a loss, in selling it at 75 cents a pound, roasted and ground, and the best grade could scarcely be sold at 50 cents a pound at retail from the original sack.

Mr. C. I. Hood, the proprietor of Hood Farm, Lowell, Mass., calls for England on the 31st of this month, on the steamship New England. While on the other side he will buy a bunch of Berkshire sows, as the sales at Hood Farm are so large it is necessary to have fresh blood in the herd. Breeders can rest assured the best that England can furnish will come in this lot, and the superior quality of Hood Farm stock will be still further enhanced.

**Boston Fish Market.**

The supply of fresh fish has been good for a few weeks past and prices are low. Market cod sells at 2 to 2 1/2 cents and with large at the same price and watered at 3 to 3 1/2 cents. Haddock at 1 1/2 to 2 cents for George and 2 1/2 to 3 cents for off shore, pollock at 2 to 2 1/2 cents and hake the same. Cod 1 1/2 to 2 cents and bluefish 7 to 8 cents. Halibut is 9 to 10 cents for gray and 11 to 12 cents for white. Fresh mackerel 6 to 7 cents each for medium and 18 to 19 cents for large. Shad plenty at 10 to 12 cents for bulk and 22 to 24 cents for retail. Western salmon frozen at 11 to 12 cents and fresh at 15 to 16 cents. Oysters are quiet at 95 cents for Norfolk standard, \$1.15 for Providence River and select fresh opened Steamers. In the shell Blue Point, at \$2 per bushel and Stamford \$1.75 a bushel or \$5 a barrel. Clams 50 cents a gallon or in shell \$3 a barrel. Lobsters more abundant, at 12 cents a pound alive and 14 cents boiled.

**SAVE YOUR FRUIT BY SPRAYING**

and use the Best Pumps  
These are







## OUR HOMES.

## The Workbox.

## LADY'S CROCHETED SKIRT.

In answer to the request asking for the rule of a skirt done in trikot, the following is easy and pretty. It is to be made in two colors, blue and white, pink and white, or any desirable two contrasting shades:

Use about four skeins of white and four skeins of colored Fiedler's Germantown worsted. A long, bone needle medium size. Chain 60 stitches with white, do 5 rows of plain trikot stitch. Then on color and trikot 40 stitches, leaving remainder of stitches on needle. Next row do only 35 stitches. Join white on again, do 5 rows of trikot, crocheting all the stitches as at first. Put in color as before and repeat until you have 35 stripes of color; finish with the colored stripe and join the edges, leaving 20 stitches at top of skirt.

On lower edge put, with color, 1 treble into every stitch; next row white, (\*) 5 treble, 1 chain, pass by 1 stitch, repeat from (\*).

Next row color, 1 treble into every stitch. Finishing—Chain 35 stitches. First row, plain trikot; after that chain 1 at beginning of each row, to make an extra stitch, and leave 4 stitches at end of each row, keeping the same number of stitches all the time, but making the stripes slant; five rows of white, two of color alternately, till you have 35 stripes of color; join together and finish lower edge with scallop of 8 treble and 1 double, and put a chain of color, 5 stitches into every stitch of scallop. Join the flounce to top of skirt with single crochet on wrong side.

Crochet a row of holes on top of skirt to run in ribbon or worsted cord with tassel.

EVA M. NILES.

## Last Year's Straw Hats.

Renovating last season's hats is not a difficult task. Since fancy straw is to be so largely used, the low-crowned hat of one year ago may be heightened by a row of straw inserted at the top of the crown, or by a scalloped edge sewed to the top of crown in braid style, and the brim may be made larger or smaller at will, taking away or adding an edge to match the crown addition, and after being rewired and pinched to a becoming shape one has a very modish hat at the cost of but a few rows of fancy straw, the straw being of the same or a contrasting color, as one wishes.

The tops of crowns, heightened by the scalloped edge, are usually filled in with flowers or foliage to simulate the up-to-date flower-covered wire tops.

The old straw must be carefully cleaned before adding the new braids, and this can be done at home exactly as well as if done at the bleacher, and the fifty cent fee can go towards new trimmings, besides one has to wait indefinitely for bleaching work at this season of the year, while it can be finished inside an hour if done in the kitchen.

Remove all old stitches left from ripping off the trimmings, also rip out the lining and wire, then brush well with a white broom.

Have a warm soda prepared (a gallon of water and a dessertspoonful of Pearline make a fine solution for cleaning straw), and immerse the hat, brushing with a manure or some other stiff brush until all grime has disappeared; then rinse it by dipping it up and down in clear warm water. Now let it drip a few minutes, then press it upon the inside, pressing it upon clean flannel to keep the right side of straw from being flattened.

This may at first seem difficult to accomplish on account of the shape of the hat, but by using a small iron, ironing near the edge of the table and moving the hat to accommodate the journey of the iron, it is easily done, and the work has a really professional touch, which the wiring, of course makes quite perfect.

The degree of stiffness is determined by the degree of moisture; sailor hats should be quite wet when pressed and a very hot iron used, while some of the finer, softer braids, whose best effects need a limp brim, should be partially dry before pressing.

Last season's turbans are changed into really stylish shapes by adding a large, loose braid, braided from tiny straw braids, two or three lengths to a strand. This is especially pretty when of a contrasting color, and if fancy flitters of the same straw is used upon the gauze or ribbon with which the crown is trimmed with.

A. B. W.

## The Progressive Dinner Party.

The progressive dinner party is as unique as it is charming, and a form of entertainment for which many hostesses feel devotedly thankful.

The possibility of grouping guests congenially, and avoiding at each table any inharmonious element, is strongly in its favor, and the superior beauty of a number of small tables over one long one is an advantage society, at least for the present, is decidedly pleased with.

At the usual dinner ceremony, a pause in the conversation is apt to send an unpleasant chill through the most experienced hostess, and an uncomfortable feeling of stiffness spreads very quickly among the guests. With the little tables all such difficulties are obviated. The small groups have a delightful feeling of sociability, and a pleasant stimulus is given to the conversation by the progressive character of the function.

The hostess presides at one table, and selects friends to do so at the others, upon whom it is incumbent to promote the enjoyment of the guests.

Usually each table is decorated with a different flower, or in a different color scheme, all together, of course, forming a delightful harmony.

At a charming function of this kind, recently given, there were five small tables, beautifully decorated with flowers and broad ribbon garlands. Pink, white and green were the colors chosen; a white table in the center, and a pink and green one at either end of it. The white one, at which sat one of the season's brides, was especially beautiful, with its masses of white roses, and loops and ends of broad white satin ribbon. From the centerpiece—a large silver bowl, filled with exquisite roses and maidenhair fern—broad white satin ribbons twined with small stretched to the edges of the table, where they were finished off with long ends and full, graceful bows, held in place with great bunches of the roses. Here and there were tiny stem glasses of roses and ferns. Each little table was elegantly laid in the usual way for the various courses.

After every second course a silver-tongued bell was softly rung, and the gentlemen moved up or down one seat, the ladies, of course, remaining seated.

From beginning to end this progressive dinner party was a delightful success, and the smiling hostess was warmly congratulated.—What to Eat.

## Brooms as Germ Brooders.

"Bacteriologists devote themselves to the detection, isolation and destruction of bacteria," says the Scientific American, "and strange to say they do not appear to have given much attention to the danger that lurks in the ordinary articles of household use. For example, the common house broom is both the habitation and breeding place for whole colonies of bacteria, and cases of disease have been traced to this apparently innocuous article. At Konigsberg a course on bacteriology is given by a physician in which he maintains that the strictest sanitary and hygienic conditions in things pertaining to the house should be maintained, and in this country in the Boston Cooking School, and doubtless elsewhere, there are many lectures given on bacteriology. The refrigerator is one of the danger spots, for bacteriologists tell us that the minutest organisms may thrive even in melted ice, and putrefactive bacteria once gaining access to the household refrigerator will breed and contaminate butter, milk, meat and other food kept therein. Cupboards and closets also afford an excellent breeding place for the ever-present microbe, and house-keepers will do well to look to such articles as refrigerators, brooms, dusters, etc."

## If She Were a Girl Again.

"If I were a girl again I do not think I would be quite so set as I was on my own intellectual development," says Mary Love Dickinson, general secretary of the Society of King's Sons and Daughters. "You think so much of whether people are clever or not, as a friend of mine said to me, when I was a little over twenty, 'and so little of anything else.' Well, time has its revenge; and I can honestly say that I am inclined to think of 'anything else' a good deal more than of elevations in the men and women that I meet. I think far more of cheerfulness and honesty and truthfulness and amiability than I did in those days, and I would rather that some of my young friends were a little less concerned about being clever and much more concerned about being good."

"I know that it means so much to us in our youth that our friends should honor us as well as love us; that the world should begin to know that we exist! We like to see our names in a newspaper or at the head of an examination list, we long for the advance, we desire that other girls have—the lecturer, the college life, the foreign travel, the elaborate training in science, music or art. Right ambitions enough if they are kept in the right place. But how about the years at college for which someone else is kept toiling in an office or at a desk, breaking himself or herself down with overwork for love of you? How about the loneliness of one whom, perhaps, you leave behind when you set forth airily upon your foreign tour? You must learn that your own improvement, your own education and training, may not be the thing that you ought to put first of all. The cultivation of your intellect is not so important as the cultivation of your soul."

## Time of the Staging of Birds.

The average observer who contents himself with thinking that all birds are more or less alike in their ways, deliberately shuts himself out from the enjoyment of one of the pleasantest pastimes in the world. Bird life is full of variety.

They woo with ardor, they battle with eagerness for the male of their choice, they offer her gifts, they sing to her and display their personal charms, while she, exerting the prerogative of her sex the world over, chooses her mate, and flying off together they begin the nest.

In the nesting season many birds feed their mates on or off the nest. It is common among robins and crows, and also with some members of the finch family. The recipients flutter their wings and utter little call notes, seeming gratified at the attention. But often, before the nesting season, a dove observer will find that many tidbits are offered and nearly always accepted.

The flycatchers, dull prosaic birds at other seasons, seem at pairing time infatuated with a very coy sort of love. The male makes extraordinary efforts at a song, and, failing this, will catch a bee or two, which the female will sedately accept. This has been observed several seasons in succession.

That "appearances are deceitful" is a true saying with reference to crows, for who would give these unromantic-looking birds credit for life-long fidelity and marital devotion? Some birds have made a name for themselves by billing and cooing in public, but the crows, less ostentatious in their affection, are quite as loving. A constant visitor to a crow-roost containing some hundred members, I feel that I can distinguish several individuals. My presence at first was greeted with marked disapprobation, but as the call went round "she's got no gun," they settled back to their own affairs. During the spring house-cleaning it always pays to make a visit there. The adults are scratching off the top-layer of the nest, and adding fresh sticks and twigs, while the young ones are choosing mates, tidling up and down the branches with that much-proving awkwardness which is so characteristic, flapping their wings, and uttering their apology for a song.

Among the woodpeckers the "hairy" seems the most devoted lover, and he woos with all devotion. Though the gift of song has been denied him, he expresses his feelings by drumming away, assisting in boring the nest and waiting on his mate. These are his springtime habits, but what shall we think of the consort who, in the fall, desires his wife and family, and lives alone in a cozy hole he has dug out for himself?

The wrens are very devoted lovers, and the courting of a pair was a pleasant incident of last May. The male bird sang and sang, pouring out his love in that "merry cascade" of ripples which is characteristic of him. His love was so overpowering that his little body was all a-quiver, but she to whom all this devotion was offered was quite indifferent. She hunted about for insects, graceful and active, while he followed after, still singing. Finding at last that all his blandishments had no effect, he darted away, returned and lighted near her. The opera glass revealed an insect in his beak. He advanced with the morsel, she took it, and it apparently sealed the compact for they flew away together, and a few days later, in a knot hole in a cedar, the little home was constructed.

The indigo bird, that bit of heaven's own blue, is one of our most dashing. One can see him at his best in a swampy woodland, when the wild azalea is in blossom, and the ground is covered with the drooping sprays of the blue mercurials. Linger one day in such a spot, the air will be filled with the songs of half a dozen male birds.

They flew in circles, through the bushes and over my head, so near that it seemed as if an outstretched hand could have seized one as he sped by. Their feathers caught the flickering sunlight as they played about, and all this wealth of song and evolution was for one little brown female, who sat quietly on a twig, her dull dress giving no hint of her relationship to these gayly-dressed aviators.

It is a curious fact that among birds widows and widowers are not tolerated, though in every flock and neighborhood are some bachelors and maidens, who fill the vacancies caused by death. If the mother bird is shot, as is sometimes the case, or falls prey to some stronger bird, the father loses no time in idle woe, but he faithfully tries to fill her place. The second wife apparently accepts the responsibility of the little family and rears it as well as she is able. A pair of orioles had begun a nest in a neighboring tree, and after it was well under way the mother was killed. The father brought material to the nest but seemed unable to weave it in. Two days later he returned with a new mate. He showed her the partially completed nest; she looked it well over, and they then retired to a neighboring twig to talk matters over. The next morning, taking a look to see how matters were progressing, a new nest was discovered in process of construction about three feet distant. Although

the new bird was not yet hatched, it was being had with surgical dressings of

which the head was soaked with three ounces of

saline, and one pint of cherry, three ounces of

leaves, the juice of two lemons, one teaspoonful of

peppercorns and four whites of eggs. Stir

together over the fire till it boils, let simmer for

twenty minutes, strain, and use when cooling.

APRAXAS SOAP.

Put of three inches from the tip and wash

and cook in boiling water fifteen minutes

or till tender. Skim out and set away for salad.

Out the remainder of the green stalks in half

inch pieces, wash and cook in the water from the

tips for half an hour. Mean time, press

through a sieve. There should be about a pint

flour, thickened with one tablespoonful of corn-

starch soaked in one rounded tablespoonful butter.

Season with salt and pepper, and, just before

serving, mix one half-cup of cream with beaten

egg of one egg in the tureen, and strain the

boiling soup into it. Serve with tiny dried discs

of white bread.

Hints to Housekeepers.

A woman brought up to understand all the old-

fashioned housekeeping theories and practices

says that lines should be washed and used

once a year to keep them in good condition. She

has all the fine lines that her mother had in her

early married life, and she believes that they

have lasted because they have received this

treatment.

New linen should never be put through the

wringer in the first two washings. The dressing

is not entirely out of them, and the threads will

break.

The Medical Record says that excellent re-

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## (Original).

**GOD KNOWETH YOUR HEART**  
The inward work and worth  
Of any mind, what other mind may judge  
Save God, who only knows the things He made  
The veritable service He exacts?  
It is the outward product men appraise.  
—Robert Bly #313

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There is a chance for somegenius  
To spend his days in clover  
By inventing cloth for overcoats  
That will fade alike all over.

## The Story of a Fateful Stampede

As we were in the Apache country, it was very foolish thing for him to do. He had unsaddled his horse and gone into the tent, when shrill yells and whoops, with the thunder of pounding hoofs from the valley, brought every man out. Watching their opportunity from lurking place in the mountains, a band of naked Apaches had slipped into the herd, running about among the mules, lashing and striking, were trying to stampede them.

following as fast as their legs could carry them.

haste carried along everything in its reach. For days Little Fern was borne swiftly on until she came to the quiet waters of a lake. Then, together with the leaves and sand and gravel, Little Fern sank to the bottom.

Every day the stream brought more sand and gravel, and they were buried deeper and deeper, and it seemed quite certain the sun would never shine upon Little Fern. Year after year, hundreds and hundreds of years passed, and Little Fern was buried under many feet of earth. Gradually the tiny fern, once so fragile that a baby's hand might easily have crushed it, became as hard as a stone. The

lake had been, a wider marsh appeared.

settlers voted \$800,000 to pay the expenses of settling an English colony there. Nearly thirty-hundred adventurers were sent over in 1749, and settled on the borders of the Bay of Chaleur, where they founded the town of Miramichi, and fortified it as the seat of the English government there. These colonists were accompanied by Col. Edward Cornwallis as their governor. The Acadians, or former French settlers, were allowed peacefully to remain there, and, having sworn never to take up arms against their countrymen, submitted to the English government, and were called "French

arsenals on the seaboard, especially within slave-labor States, were so weakly manned.

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## THE MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

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## THE HORSE.

## The Trotting-Bred Trooper.

Just now the foreign buyers of cavalry horses are very much in evidence in the American market, but they do not seek to buy the lines of imported blood that have been so diligently boomed for the improvement of the American horse other than draught.

Your issue of April 12 contained an item from that reputable English paper, "Land and Water," that reflected the views of an English buyer of horses of troops, and given an idea how much the supply is for cavalry purposes in England, and the same can be said of other parts of the United Kingdom and on the continent outside of Russia and Austria.

The highest military authorities have with the revision of "Mounted Tactics" adapted to the conditions of modern war made the trooper as important a soldier as ever; consequently with the vast armies that the great nations must have, there is nothing of more importance than the supply and the maintenance of a remount, to keep the standard of the cavalry arm equal to the others.

While prices and the transportation facilities have been an inducement to investigate the merits of the American-bred horse for cavalry purposes, there are other points that have caused his appreciation for army use. Impartial military critics of the day have pronounced our own cavalry second to none in tactics for active service and in excellence of mounts. This remarkable excellence dates from the days of the Swamp Fox and his men, who kept the British on the heels and have continued to improve until now. In the civil war Sheridan, Custer and Kilpatrick, as diamonds on diamonds, against Wheeler, Morgan and Stoneman, and when the Federal cavalry mounted equalled the Confederate in excellence then the war soon ended, as the mounted soldier must have the qualities of a war horse in his mount or he is not efficient.

There is no class of horses that have more exacting requirements to fill than the cavalry horses. Foreign nations have for centuries depended on the thoroughbred of the hunter type to produce their best hunter sires of the right stamp, all expecting to race, and their get with these qualities are too valuable to be troop horses. Therefore they must seek elsewhere for stock that possesses these thoroughbred characteristics.

The qualities so requisite in a troop horse of soundness, not only in constitution, but also in conformation, with the essential action and ability to carry weight, and last, but not least, the courage and intelligence are not hard to find when the horse is bred in lines of American trotting blood. They have all the characteristics of the "blood," with the practical merit of substance and stamina and a better balanced nervous system for discipline.

The significant fact that the trotter is the point factor in making our light and middle-weight horses popular for export and now in line for cavalry purposes should convince those who doubt that the trotting-bred animal has more utility and can fill more places than any other breed. Their intrinsic merit for practical purposes, independent of their racing, has been recognized and widely known as the trademark of an American bred horse, and the trotting bred trooper has no equal and but few superiors as a war horse at present.

S. S. DOUGHERTY.

## Worcester Notes.

An old-time horseman applied to me to see if I could get him into an old horse, his relative having left him \$500 for that purpose. He had been a tax payer in this city for years. Upon application it was found that a person so applying must be of the elite, and when he was found that this man was an old horseman, he was hauled and said, "Well, you know it all very well, you know—but then a man has got to belong to the church, or some faith or creed, or of course Mr. Blank is all very well, but then he has none of these qualifications, and so we shall have to decline to receive him."

So it is with these charitable institutions. Take the Magdalen Asylum, for instance. Female virtue clothed in rags may knock and knock in vain at the door of one of these institutions, and may starve on the threshold, and yet cannot gain entrance. They must sit in order to be admitted. Ah, these great institutions of our great cities, what are they for? Why? For the elect and none else. They are bound by iron-clad rules which admit the dissembler under the cloak of religion and virtue. How different our Saviour's teachings, he whose mission it was to save sinners, even though they had been hardened or anything else.

What a cold and rainy spring! The weather has delayed work on the new track, but with a few good days it will be ready to work over, and soon the tread of the trotter will be heard on the turf again. Many years ago, when I was young and charming, as Little Buttercup used to sing, on a good old stock farm I would away many a day. One of our nearest neighbors was a clergyman of the Baptist persuasion who loved a horse. During one of the minister's visits to a conference in neighboring State he bought a horse, and it was a trotter, too. He brought the animal home, and he could beat them all on the road.

When the cattle show was held in the fall, a purse was offered for members' gentlemen's roadsters, owners to drive, purse \$50, mile heats, two in three. Well, the reverend gentleman entered his horse. Some of his congregation, however, of his congregation, and said, "Why, Minister, are you going to trot horses?" and the female part of the congregation lifted up their hands in holy horror. The good clergyman was in a quandary, and just before the class started rushed up to the judges and said, "Am I understood that this is to be a race?"

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THE CONSISTENT RACE HORSE OWYHEE, 2:11.

"Why, certainly," was the reply.

"Well, I withdrew my horse and want my entrance money back."

"Why," said one of the judges, "what did you think your horse would have to do if not to trot?"

"Oh," replied the clergyman, "what will my congregation think to see me trotting home?"

"That's it," rejoined the starting judge, "what will they think? Well, I'm one of your congregation and I'll tell you what I think. You have got a terrible good horse. Now you just get into your wagon, go up and score down with the bunch, and if you win I'll gamble that the whole congregation will praise you to the skies, but if you lose you had better reason, that's all."

The good clergyman took the advice and won in two straight heats, and the congregation received him with open arms.

None of the HAMMERS readers should forget that four superb horses are to be offered at private sale by Michael Henry, Shrewsbury street, Worcester. These animals were the property of the late Paul J. Henry.

Among the entries to the great stallion race to be held at Readville next September is Benton M. Now there is not a man, woman or child hereabouts who does not know all about Benton M. and Ezra Maria, too, for that matter. Ezra is a social gentleman, who lives over in Marble Village (Boston), and he owns and raised Benton M. With any common sense this stallion would have beaten the world and trotted in two minutes to a blue sky. But Benton M. has had many hard races and been put into the wrong man's hands, saying this, "Old Sport" does not intend to be misunderstood. He does not mean for the past year or two, but before that. This grand stallion has been secured and the good old much. We have been informed that Ezra has adopted the right kind of treatment and by careful usage the stallion has come out all right and the same leg is all right too. If this is so then Benton M. will be a dangerous opponent, and all Worcester County, including the Blackstone Valley, will be there to see him regain his lost laurels and rejoice over it too.

My friend Tupper of Central street has brought down some nice sale horses from the State of Maine. They have good pedigrees and some can trot fast. In the lot are trotters, pacers, roadsters and family horses.

Some days ago "Old Sport" took a drive down to the old Full Moon track, and the good old days of yore were recalled vividly to mind. There were the same old willows that waved over the entrance, the same old turns and the broad home stretch. Visitors Hill Woodford, Jim Turner and "Aunt Carpenter" came floating before me, but those old days are gone, and John Langley, too. Alas! poor Yorick, I knew him well. He whose wise sayings and merry gibes were wont to make those happy around him. Well, many will come and go, but none will be as good as those in days of yore.

The time is fast approaching when county fairs will be held, and now is the time to select competent judges for the stand. Barre, Oxford, Sturbridge, Spencer and other places will be in line. Last year's criticism from the press, which was unanimous in censuring a certain starter, should and probably will prove a warning to societies to remedy this evil. What is and has been ailing the horse racing at the fair is the work in the stand for a few years back. There is no place that "Old Sport" likes to go more than to these fairs. Here he renews old acquaintances, friends of years, and enjoys sitting in the grand stand and watching the racing. Among the spectators he often sees the familiar faces of matrons who were rosy-cheeked maidens in his boyhood days. But "Old Sport" dislikes to see the rank rulings in the judges' stand and hear the numerous complaints, and justly, too, of the horsemen. The object of the society is to bear the glories of the judges and starters in the stand.

"Old Sport" means no offense, and would rather speak a good word than a bad one. When the fairs take place he will be on hand to watch them, and he hopes to be able to give a good report of all the workings, and that there will be a decided improvement in the judging of speed. Yours, "Old Sport."

## Providence (R. I.) Notes.

The past week has been a discouraging one to the trainers located in this section, as it has rained the greater part of the week. The storm was followed by a cold snap, which the oldest inhabitant proclaimed the coldest in 50 years. The mercury hovered piously near the freezing point, but I am happy to state that a decided change is now in order.

The cold snap prevented some of the stables removing to the tracks, and as a result road work is still in order with a few. If the spring takes a turn for the better, and it has been a backward one in this locality, I expect that both the Narragansett and Collingwood tracks will have some new tenants.

There is a goodly number at the Narragansett Park track, which is now completely covered. Secretary Dexter expects about 15 head this week and he is constantly in receipt of letters inquiring about quarters. About 50 head are now stabled and last week Mr. Davis of Connecticut is coming with a string of seven record horses. Among these are "The Duke" (2:15), "Daphne" (2:16) and "Debut" (2:14). A Whitcomb horseman has engaged quarters for two stables and will arrive this week.

Knappe Forebush is handling 30 head of youngsters belonging to the Woodlake Farm of Johnston, R. I., the property of F. S. Perkins, president of the Narragansett Park Association. The colts are out of such dams as George Wilkes, Dictator, Nutwood, Allendorf, Wilkes Boy, Patron and Forest. They are the finest lot of youngsters ever seen at the track. Their ages are from yearlings to five year olds. Knappe has also Don L. (2:15), the property of W. A. H. Comstock. Don L. is entered along the line and already gives promise of considerable speed. A green pacer is also in Forebush's string.

I went out to the sale at the Marlboro Stock Farm, the property of the Hon. Frank O. Bayles. Some 40 head were disposed of, mostly brood

mares and youngsters. A large number of Providence horsemen were present and made purchases, some of which will be seen in the parade on Decoration Day. Mr. Bayles has some likely colts on the farm but the one which captured my eye was a nine-months old colt by Crescent (2:07 1/2), out of Jean Look (2:30), the dam of Fraxel (2:09 1/2). It is as likely a looking colt as I have seen in some time, and is a perfect picture of his sire, having the same marks. The day was stormy and no doubt kept quite a number away from the sale.

Arrangements for the parade on Decoration Day are progressing favorably. The committee having held several meetings. Circulars containing information relative to the parade have been mailed as well as entry blanks. Through the courtesy of Secretary W. W. Dexter of the Narragansett Park each member of the driving association was presented with a book containing the entries of the early-closing events of the Grand Circuit meet. The parade will start at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon. The route will be through the park, but the roads have not been selected. The American Hand has been secured for the occasion, and will play at the banquet which follows the parade in the evening.

The parade is benefiting the carriage repairers, as the owners are having their wagons painted and varnished for the coming event. The harnessmen, too, are realizing on the parade and some horses will be seen with new harnesses. Secretary William M. Bush of the committee returned from a trip in the South this week, and is now a busy man taking care of the entries. We expect to have several hundred turnouts in line.

Nate Young expects to enter two pairs in the parade. He will book up Eddie and R. W. Boone and Goldfinger and Robert Pepper. R. W. Boone is the ice cream Nate bought to have some fun with the boys, but an open winter spoiled the fun. The mare is out in the country, but will be brought in for the parade. Goldfinger (2:15 1/2) will have Robert Pepper for a mate. Robert Pepper is a four year old by Allerton, sire of Precision (2:04 1/2). Indole is a seal brown gelding by Ida, full brother to Pidd (2:04 1/2). Robert Pepper and R. W. Boone will be turned over to Jody Robson after the parade and conditioned for a summer campaign.

Fred Clark ran down from Hartford, where he has the string of the Pleasant Valley Stock Farm quartered. Fred reports the track at Charter Oak Park in good shape. His horses are all in good condition. Windol (2:15 1/2) and Dan Q. (2:07 1/2) are both rounding into condition nicely. Windol is already stepping fast quarters.

James D. Kelly of this city is now located at the McPherson Dental College in Montreal, Canada, taking a special course in veterinary dentistry.

Charlie Rowan did not remove to Collingwood track last week, owing to the weather. He is working some of his colts over the Narragansett Park track.

Rob Perkins expects to carry off the honors in the parade with his pair of black pacers, Frank City (2:18) and Flying Nig (2:19 1/2). Mr. Perkins attended the New York parade and regretted that he did not enter. To tell the truth, I think the pair would have been very much in the game.

Some of the members of the Providence Driving Association are wondering where the membership cards are and book of by-laws and constitution, as well as an emblematic button. Several of the members have joined the New York Association and sport the button of that organization. "STROLLER."

A wise man is on the lookout for a good thing German Post man, sold by C. B. Barrett, 45 North Market street, for horse bedding is one of the good things of this world.

## The Blacksmith of Sippican.

Sippican is the Indian name for Marion, noted last year as the summer resort of ex-President and Mrs. Cleveland. It is claimed that the subject of the following poem was a story savoring somewhat of a romance concerning an enormous tortoise shell which the good people of Marion utilized for a ferry-boat and a station which could outstep the wind. The author of the poem, if we remember correctly, is a clergyman. It is possible that the "man from Middleboro town," acting upon the suggestion that it is not best to spoil a good story by sticking too closely to facts, may have enlarged a trifle upon that of the blacksmith.

Search not the map, O curious man,  
To find the town of Sippican;  
But listen while my verses sound it,  
And tell the regions lying round it.  
Northward is Rochester's fair land,  
With roads and people far and near;  
And southward, stretching far away,  
The windy wastes of Buzzard's Bay.

While east and west the silence broods  
O'er Mattapoisett's piny woods  
And Wewasett's briny floods

In recent days the quaint old town  
Has gained a highly prized renown;  
For hither comes a lady true  
At age of thirty over true.

One day, at home, I struck a man  
Who carried a prodigious weight,  
His shoulders carry Gias's gale.

He stooped with me a winter night,  
And slipped away before 'twas light.  
He paid me well with tales he told,  
A-talking till the night was old.

A man he was of giant frame:  
Of Goths or Anaxim he came.  
His arms could swing prodigious weights,  
His shoulders carry Gias's gale.

He stooped as if to ease his power,  
And slipped away before 'twas light.  
The half his yards I cannot tell,  
But two or three remember well.

And now have driven down, of course,  
To see the "ferryboat" and "horse";  
The vessel was a tortoise shell,  
A whaler brought from Southern seas—  
The tale of cannibals and ease:

"And that her steady course she plows  
Betwixt Nye's wharf and Henry D's,  
I've not wondered how 'twould seem  
To see a tortoise go by steam."

But this was nothing to the other;  
He talked about him like a brother—  
The famous horse with limb and wind  
To leave the thunder storm behind."

The host with black amazement dumb,  
Intent to hear the tale to come,

A trifle, closer hitched his chair,  
And like an oak was rooted there.

"My name," said he, "is Rufus Bright,  
I drove to Mattapoisett for pigs  
One afternoon. The sky was black  
Behind us as we started back."

"'Twas dog days and a time of drought;  
The dust was deep, the wind was south;  
The thunder grumbled down the bay;  
The lightning's flash was thoroughway."

"We didn't travel slow nor fast,  
Till red-roofed Cannonville was passed,  
When, by my soul! I got a scare  
That shook my teeth and raised my hair."

"The thunder boomed overhead  
As if 'twas sent to raise the dead;  
An' 'Dandy, layin' back 'is ears,  
Jumped like a yoke of frightened steers,  
An' went as if a red-hot god,  
His flanks were prickin' all 'is head."

"I dropped the reins and threwed the whip  
To keep the team with double grip,  
An' watched the horse as on he tore  
With rain behind an' dust before."

"My breath was gone from Cannonville  
Clean to the bridge 'tween Moscon's Mill,  
From Macomber's to Rocky Nook  
Like waa's fever-age I shook."

"All through the woods 'twas black as night;  
Only the flames glim in light;  
An' sparks they flew from Dandy's heels  
Like half-a-dozen dancin' on the heels,  
But when she slowed at Bray's Corner  
I guessed the go-cart was a poor."

"It seemed as if capsize we must,  
An' down in mud or broke in dust;  
I call it since the cape of trouble;  
'Twas waa's Hesteras to trouble;  
But as the shop I turned to see  
An' faster yet we pulled on."

"House after house went screamin' by;  
The little wagon seemed to fly,  
An' in a liff I reached a porch,  
That twitched my heart, an' jerked my breath,  
An' made me think the thing was death."

"Hear what I say an' don't forget;  
Not by a drop was Dandy wet;  
The dasher an' the seat was dry  
An' 'drier' an' my bone was I.  
But as the shop I turned to see  
The pig was drowned in behold."

The stranger ceased, to wait my say;  
Sippican is a word, to say,  
The blacksmith in Sippican today,  
The ferryboat is lying by,  
At least it does not meet the eye,  
The famous horse is famous still,  
Though to us as steady as a mill.

## Claremont (N. H.) Notes.

For years this town has been destitute of a good public track, and consequently owners of good horses could not get them trained. Mr. W. H. H. Moody, owner of the Highland View Trotting Park, has recently leased to Mr. P. O. Barnham of Hartford, Ct., certain stalls and privileges of the track for this season. Mr. Barnham is well known to many race goers and is a very capable young man. He has had in his string at Hartford, Ct., such horses as Cheerful Aley (2:13) and Gambit (2:16).

This season his stable, while not yet complete, contains many good things. Mr. Barnham has now three with marks below 2:30, and two green ones that he worked last fall in 2:31 and 2:19, respectively. At the track here is a very good one, we hope he may be able to develop green ones and quicken the others.

Mr. Moody's horses are being worked on the road and I presume they will be at the track soon. "FEE."

A. H. Merrill, the well known dealer of Danvers, Mass., writes us from Chicago that he has just bought the chestnut mare Trinita F. (2:11 1/4). This mare has had a remarkable racing career. Last year, as a four year old, she started in ten races and won ten first moneys. She took the second in 35 heats and finished first in 80 of them, was second in two and third in three, and was never back of third place in any heat.

Superintendent Mahoney of Maplewood Farm, Portsmouth, N. H., says that they have 22 head of horses that they are working at the Dover track. The horses are doing nicely and the track is in excellent condition.

The other begged him to explain,  
And did not spend his breath in vain,  
For while the air was dense with smoke,  
He cleared his throat and thus he spoke:

"He told me, I remember well,  
The vessel was a tortoise shell,  
A whaler brought from Southern seas—  
The tale of cannibals and ease:

"And that her steady course she plows  
Betwixt Nye's wharf and Henry D's,  
I've not wondered how 'twould seem  
To see a tortoise go by steam."

But this was nothing to the other;  
He talked about him like a brother—  
The famous horse with limb and wind  
To leave the thunder storm behind."

The host with black amazement dumb,  
Intent to hear the tale to come,

**\$100 Reward**  
for any case of colic, enteric, splenic, contracted, and all kinds of ailments of all kinds that

**Tuttle's Elixir**  
will cure, for sale every where. Sent by mail to the Adams E. Co.  
DR. S. A. TUTTLE,  
Sole Proprietor,  
17 Beverly St., Boston, Mass.

MARLBORO PARK CORP'N  
..Marlboro, Mass..

First Meeting of the Season,  
**Wednesday, May 30**  
(Decoration Day)

2:27 class, Trot and Pace Purse \$200  
2:35 class, Trot and Pace Purse \$200  
2:40 class, Trot and Pace Purse \$200  
3:00 class, Trot and Pace Purse \$150  
Running Race, 1-2 mile heats,  
best 2 in 3, catch weight Purse \$150

Entries close Friday, May 25,  
Send for Entry Blank.

## NOTICE.

**IMPORTANT TO HORSEMEN.**  
The following dates have been taken by the Marlboro Trotting Association for the season, and horse men will find this the best track in New England to race at.

Horses are landed right at the grounds by the association and the electric cars run to the gate every ten minutes. Electric cars from Worcester every thirty minutes, and from Boston every hour. Meetings close either the week before or the week after the Worcester meetings, all through the season, giving horsemen a chance to raise their horses two weeks without any expense in shipping, as the tracks are but ten miles apart, and horses can be driven over the road either way.

Meetings will be held at Marlboro as follows: classes and purses announced: Monday, June 10, 21, 22, July 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Aug. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Oct. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Nov. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Dec. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Jan. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Feb. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Mar. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Apr. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, May 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, June 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Aug. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Oct. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Nov. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Dec. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Jan. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Feb. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Mar. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Apr. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, May 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, June 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11,